

GEE TEAM 8

IBRAHIM KAMORU ALAO (s91)

OBAFEMI AWOLOWO UNIVERSITY, NIGERIA.

SECOND LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

“What can I say on to the Lord, all I have to say is thank you Lord” It was a great experience for me and indeed a very unique one as this year GEE competition was my second time. Of course difficulties are expected to arise from this type of cross-cultural undertaking with regards to work ethic and especially time zone differences.

Initially, apart from the epileptic power supply, I was able to overcome the internet and browsing challenges that I encountered during the last year competition after my mother managed to buy a second-hand laptop for me in preparation for the 2011 GEE competition having seen my predicament during the last one. But sad thing occurred at a very crucial stage when we were about to distribute the tasks among team members. I was attacked on 4th of April on my way to cyber cafe to communicate with my team members by political thugs who are in the habit of creating problems and disturbing the peace of people in my state, and who also doubled as protesters for the postponement of the elections that were supposed to be held on 2nd of April.

After several beatings, they took away my laptop and some previously downloaded works that were in my laptop bag. Thank God, today that I was able to finish with my team though from my family hospital. I got the help from the doctor who personally rented a modem along side with his laptop for me when I explained my ordeal and involvement in this ongoing GEE. If not for the doctor's assistance, I would not have made it to the end.

Concerning my team members, they were quite unique, understanding and wonderful people and this was reflected in our proposal named **Nawe Explore** which was coined out of the Brazilian indigenous community called Enawene who is currently in danger of water pollution among other things. Our proposal dealt with the ways in which the challenges facing this community can be alleviated, and have a better and improved standard of living. Basecamp served as our converging point where we used **campfire chart** to communicate since not all the members had access to **skype** that we initially wanted to use.

GEE has deposited in me the spirit of teamwork and how to exercise patience with other people's attitudes. This has boosted my morale because none of my team members except **Paul** has ever shown concern since that ugly incident occurred to me. Indeed, it was a great exposure to know more about the cultures and the world of business.

At this juncture, I would like to thank and appreciate those who organised 2011 GEE Competition, my mother and my doctor; it has really been a sweet-bitter experience and opportunity to make acquaintances. Once again, thank you all and God bless.