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Autore	Al Alami Suhair
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Sommario/riassunto	The teaching of English in the United Arab Emirates is based upon the communicative approach and aims to enable EFL students to employ language skills for communication purposes, as appropriate. Personal experience and the authors colleagues observations, however, reveal that a number of EFL university students fail to achieve adequate communicative competence, which, in turn, does not qualify them to exploit the foreign language of English as required by their curricula as well as by today.