

PowerPoint Presentations for

# Learning for Earning

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19

## **Communication Skills**

### **Chapter Objectives**

After studying this chapter, you will be able to

- identify ways to send and receive messages.
- compare and contrast the three basic communication styles.
- list helpful tips for public speaking.
- explain the importance of feedback in the communication process.

#### **Chapter Objectives**

- demonstrate how to make and receive business telephone calls.
- write business letters, memos, reports, and e-mails.
- identify several forms of nonverbal communication.

#### **Key Terms**

- communicate
- verbal communication
- active listening
- feedback

- multitasking
- nonverbal communication
- body language

## Methods of Communication

 During communication, two things occur: a message is sent and one is received.



## Methods of Communication

- Communicate To share ideas, feelings, or information, both verbally and nonverbally.
- Messages are sent in ways such as
  - speaking, writing, drawing, touching, singing, using gestures or facial expressions, and sending signals
- Messages are received in ways such as
  - listening, reading, seeing, and feeling

#### **Communication Tools**

- Each form of communication requires a tool to allow communication to occur.
- To communicate without words, people may use pictures, sign language, or facial expressions.
- Advances in technology allow people to send and receive messages using phones, faxes, cameras, computers, and other tools.



#### **Did You Know?**

Today's information age began with the telegraph, the first communication tool to convert information to electrical form and reliably transmit it over long distances.

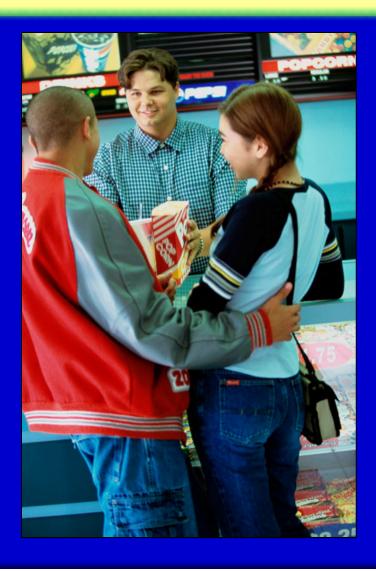


### Styles of Communication

- Understanding communication styles will help you send and receive messages.
  - Passive communicators avoid conflict and allow others to make decisions for them.
  - Aggressive communicators are forceful and achieve goals at the expense of others.
  - Assertive communicators honestly express opinions and feelings while respecting others.

#### **Speaking**

- Speaking is the most widely used form of communication.
- Verbal
   communication –
   Communication involving the use of words.



### **Improving Your Speech**

- Your speech affects the impressions people form about you.
- Always speak clearly and in a normal tone.
- Practice good grammar at all times.
- Think about what you will say.
- Avoid using slang.
- Do not use profanity.
- Try not to drop the endings of words.

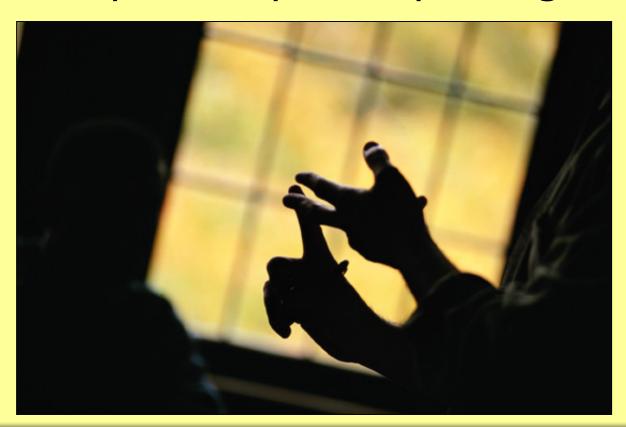
#### **Public Speaking**

- Public speaking is the act of making speeches in public before an audience.
- Speaking in front of a group is expected at work.
- An outline keeps a speech on track.
  - The introduction announces your topic.
  - The discussion develops the main idea.
  - The closing summarizes the key points.



#### **Think About It**

Identify school activities that will allow you to practice public speaking.



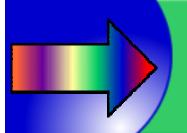
#### Listening

- Listening is the most common method of receiving messages.
- Active listening –
   Listening and responding to another person to improve mutual understanding.



### Listening

- People become poor listeners when they
  - stop concentrating.
  - become upset at certain words or phrases.
  - pay more attention to the speaker's appearance than the message.
  - disagree with the speaker and start building an argument.
  - try to "catch" every detail or write everything down.



#### **In Your Opinion**

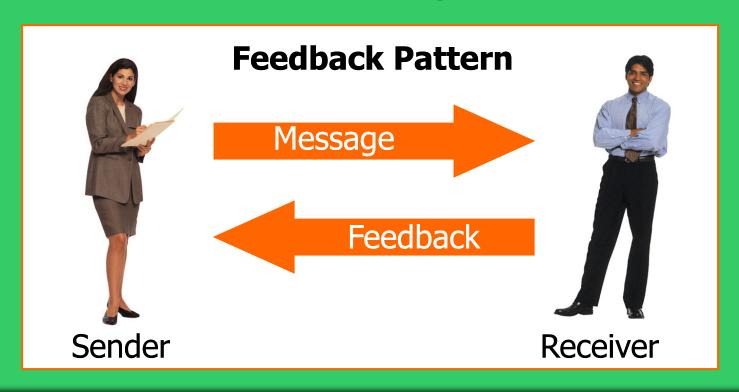
- When listening to a speaker for the first time, how can you distinguish details from the key points?
- Would you recommend taking notes during the speech?

### Listening

- Good listening skills include:
  - paying close attention to what the speaker says
  - avoiding the distraction of outside noises
  - keeping an open mind
  - remaining silent while trying to listen
  - concentrating on the main points
  - asking questions as needed

#### Feedback

 Feedback – The return of information to a sender by a receiver trying to understand the message.



#### Feedback

- Good listeners provide feedback by restating messages in their own words.
- Without feedback, both sender and receiver might believe they understand the same message, but actually have different meanings in mind.
- With no feedback, both parties assume only one message exists.

#### Multitasking

- Multitasking Doing more than one job at a time.
- One example is a fast-food worker who takes a customer's order, collects the money, makes change, and delivers the order— often while taking the next customer's order.
- Multitasking requires good speaking and listening skills.

### **Using the Telephone**



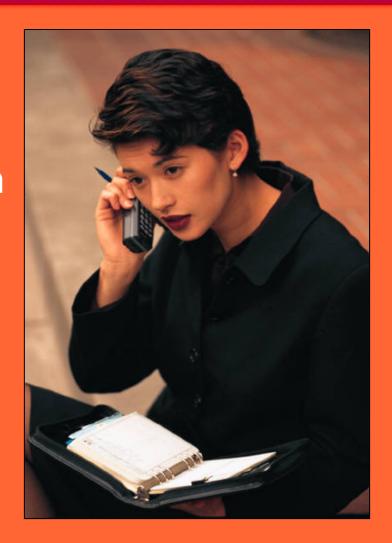
In telephone conversations, words and voice tone are important since neither person can see the other's facial expressions.

#### **Receiving Calls**

- Speak clearly when answering the phone at work.
- Make the caller feel comfortable.
- Talk directly into the phone using a pleasant tone, but never shouting.
- Be courteous, polite, and patient.
- Be sure to accurately give and get all information.

### Taking a Message

- Carefully record the
  - caller's name, phone number, and extension
  - name of his or her company
  - reason for the call
  - time and date the call was received



#### **Types of Calls**

- When making calls for the company, you need to be prepared and organized.
- Remind yourself of the call's purpose:
  - to give information?
  - to get information?
  - to place an order?
- Have the necessary information in front of you and keep the call brief.

#### **Orders**

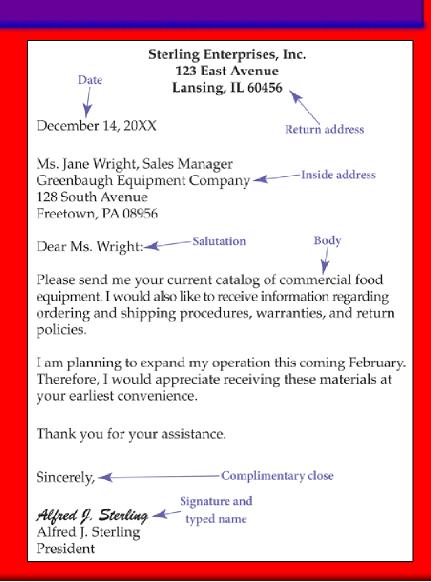
- When placing orders for your employer, tell the listener who you represent and why you are calling.
- Speak clearly and slowly to allow the person to record your order accurately.
- Give the person a chance to ask questions and repeat information.

#### **Emergency Calls**

- Learn what guidelines the company expects you to follow.
- Know where emergency telephone numbers are posted.
- When reporting an accident
  - remain calm and describe it clearly.
  - give your company's address.
  - follow directions exactly.

#### **Writing Business Letters**

- Business letters have seven key parts:
  - return address
  - date
  - inside address
  - salutation
  - body
  - complimentary close
  - signature/typed name



#### **Writing Business Letters**

- Outline your ideas first.
- Emphasize the following in these letters:
  - For events, list them in scheduled order.
  - For ideas, cover more important topics first.
  - For a thank you, describe the reason for your appreciation.
  - To make a request, explain what you need and when.
  - To answer a request, thank the person for writing and respond appropriately.

#### **Writing Memos**

- Memos are usually short and concise.
- They are generally sent to inform coworkers and colleagues about topics, such as new or revised policies, training sessions, or work schedules.

#### **Creating Reports**

- Reports generally include the following sections:
  - title page
  - introduction
  - body
  - conclusion
- Before you begin writing, make sure you understand the reason for compiling the report.

### **Sending E-mail**

- Guidelines for sending professional e-mails include:
  - knowing your employer's e-mail policy
  - starting with a salutation or greeting
  - using correct grammar and punctuation
  - including your name, telephone number, and fax number at the end of your message
  - running spell-check and proofreading for accuracy before sending

## Nonverbal Communication

- Nonverbal communication The sending and receiving of messages without the use of words.
- Examples include:
  - flags
  - lights
  - whistles
  - drawings

- music
- body movements
- facial expressions
- gestures

#### **Body Language**



Body language – A form of nonverbal communication in which a person "speaks" with the use of body movements, facial expressions, and hand gestures.

## **Body Language** on the Job

- Body language tells others about you, so use it to make a good impression.
- Slouching and staring into space can signal laziness and disinterest.
- A handshake and a smile signal friendliness in the workplace.
- Make sure your body language matches your spoken communication.



#### **Think About It**

- List several skills for good listening and effective speaking.
- Explain how feedback affects good communication.
- Describe how to make and receive phone calls in a businesslike manner.
- Describe how to write a business letter.
- Explain the importance of body language to clear communications.

## **Chapter 19: In the Know**

- Listening is more than hearing.
- Feedback is needed for communication accuracy.
- In the workplace, communications should be polite, accurate, thorough, and businesslike.
- You must know how to make emergency calls.
- People send wordless messages about themselves through body language.



## Chapter 19: Think More About It

- What can you do to improve your listening, speaking, and public speaking skills?
- Are your written communications excellent, or is there room for improvement?
- Could you handle a phone call in case of an emergency?
- How well does your body language enhance your spoken messages?