



BUSINESS SKILLS AND BUSINESS ENGLISH

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THE PLAN



To communicate successfully internationally you need:

- CONCISE (product, package, positive – the three P's)
- FRAMEWORKS (to free you to focus on content)
- STOCK PHRASES (to help you create a 'no surprises' communications culture)





4 TECHNIQUES



- NETWORKING
- PRESENTATIONS
- MEETINGS
- NEGOTIATION





TECHNIQUE 1 Get to know Jo



- Where are you from?
 - What part are you from?
 - What's it like there?
 - What did you do before this?
 - How was it different?
 - Have you been abroad?

What's the most interesting thing you have learned?

- NATIONAL
- REGIONAL
- PROFESSIONAL
- PERSONAL



NETWORKING HOW TO LISTEN



Active listening

Four types of listener. Which one are you?

- The Non Listener
- The Marginal Listener
- The Evaluative Listener
- The Active Listener

Characteristics

- The <u>Non Listener</u>
- I'm thinking about what I want to say next.
- The <u>Marginal Listener</u>
- I get the gist but I'm more interested in what I want to say.
- The <u>Evaluative Listener</u>
- I hear the words but I don't hear the feelings.
- The <u>Active Listener</u>
- I hear and understand and I focus on the content and your feeling.



HOW TO EMPATHISE



Give F.A.C.E time.

- Focus
- Acknowledgment
- Clarify
- Empathise

"Being president is like running a cemetery: you've got a lot of people under you and nobody's listening." –Bill Clinton







CULTURAL FAULTLINES



- LINGUISTIC
- RELIGIOUS
- ECONOMIC
- POLITICAL
- RACIAL
- HISTORICAL

- All nations have cultural faultlines.
- ICEBREAKERS
- ICEMAKERS
- Use the icebreakers.
- Avoid the icemakers.



TECHNIQUE 2 Presentations -Dealing with questions



- The 4 ASKS
- Use the 'depersonalisation' technique – avoid 'l', 'you', 'me', 'my'. Use 'the' or 'that'.
- If you don't like my answer, it's the answer not me!
- (Business saying: 'Only the paranoid survive!')

• Thank *'Thank you for the question.'*

• Repeat

'The question was....'

• Answer.

'The answer is....'

• Check.

'Does THAT answer THE question?'

TECHNIQUE 3 House MEETINGS The problem



The non-native speaker's lament.

'THINK, TRANSLATE, OPEN MOUTH, TOO LATE!'





TECHNIQUE 3 MEETINGS HOW TO INTERVENE



PLAN YOUR VIRTUAL INTERVENTION.

- Check agenda- what is of special interest to you?
- Pre-advise chair if you want to intervene.
- They will call on you when they reach that point or if you remind them they will remember.

IN A FACE TO FACE MEETING

- Catch the eye or ear of the chair.
- If you will be absent or leaving early, it is important to pre-advise.





• Always greet.

'Hi everybody. How are you doing? It's good to be here'.

- If you are the chair always greet and check who is on line.
- Always identify yourself when intervening.
- 'It's Laurent speaking.'
- Check no noisy accessories. jewellery, fingers tapping, keyboard tapping
- No heavy breathing.
- Avoid 'dead air' time Find out who is team leader before the call and ask questions to him/her. He/She will identify appropriate responder.
- Agree Follow-up actions.
- Agree date of next meeting.
- Thank everyone for participation.



HOW TO KEEP CONTROL



- 1 Establish control early: Kick off meeting, welcome and get guests to identify themselves.
- 2 Don't take your own minutes: Get someone else to do it. Frees you to run meeting.
- 3 Introduce each item and speaker.
- 4 Elicit contributions.
- 5 Keep to time.
- 6 Keep to agenda.
- 7 Summarise discussion and decide what to minute.
- 8 If people digress or get aggressive, suggest discuss 'outside the meeting'
- 9 Thank and close meeting, check minutes and circulate.



TECHNIQUE 3 Recognising Negotiation Signals



- Identify the five stages of the negotiation.
- PREPARE
- DEBATE
- PROPOSE
- BARGAIN
- AGREE
- 'You are always at one stage and may revisit a stage several times."
- (Professor Gavin Kennedy Perfect Negotiation, Arrow Books)



LANGUAGE OF NEGOTIATION



- PREPARE PHASE SET OUT YOUR STALL
- Our situation is.....
- What we want to achieve is....
- The problem we face is.....
- The key issue in our market is.....
- DEBATE PHASE
- Tell me what you feel....
- Tell what you think about.....
- One the one hand On the other hand.....
- PROPOSE PHASE
- I propose
- I suggest
- What would happen if we did this?
- Suppose we did this , would it be acceptable?
- How about ...?

- BARGAIN PHASE
- If we do this will you....?
- If you agree to this we'll
- If you can't agree to this we'll.....
- This is a deal breaker for us.
- I'm not happy with that.
- AGREE PHASE
- I'm comfortable with that.
- I'm happy with that.
- I can live with that.
- I think we can proceed along these lines.
- CONTRACT LANGUAGE
- The use of 'shall' not 'will'
- Time is of the essence.
- We will use our best efforts to assure...
 (Note: Legal English now using 'Must' to avoid ambiguity of 'shall'.)



LANGUAGE OF NEGOTIATION



- Build a library of phrases to match each category.
- When you hear a new phrase, add it to your library.
- Use the categories to identify your negotiating partner's thinking and adapt.
- Your job is to identify what stage they are at and then bring them forward step by step to agreement.



Summary THE MESSAGE



CONCISE (Product, Package, Positive – Three P's of presentation)





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Oh, AND ONE MORE THING!

- All these techniques and exercises and recordings for practice are in:
- KEY BUSINESS SKILLS –Book and CD
- A one-stop shop for presentations, meetings, negotiations and networking
- Self-study and classroom CEFR B2
- By Barry Tomalin
- www.collinselt.com

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