

## Communication, Nature, Origin, Development And Barriers Of Communication

Dr. Sunita Rana  
A.P & H.O.D App.Sc.  
HITM, Engineering College, India

### ABSTRACT:

*“It is the province of knowledge to speak and it is the privilege of wisdom to listen.”\_\_ Oliver Wendell Holmes*

*“Effective Communication not so much on WHAT is said as HOW it is said.”\_\_ Groff Conklin*

#### ❖ What do we mean by Communication?

Communication is as old as man himself. Since time immemorial, it has been an integral part of man’s life.[1]Communication is an art which people use for mutual understanding; it is an aspect of human nature, whatever we are, wherever we may be. If two persons are present, a sort of understanding begins to develop between them. Even if nothing is communicated verbally, there is an exchange at the prespeech level. This communication might be pleasant or unpleasant, or indifferent, but mere proximity encourages communication, and its aim at understanding.

The word ‘communication’ has been derived from Latin word ‘communicare’which indicates ‘sharing’. Communication is, indeed, sharing; sharing of ideas and feelings between two or more persons.[2]. The Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary defines ‘communication’ as “The activity process of expressing ideas and feelings or of giving people information.”Although the growth of communication technology has tremendously changed the ways of communicating ideas, meaning of word ‘communication’ remains unchanged. If we look around us, we find people communicating with one –another or involved in day-to-day conversations, calls, e-mails, writing letters, sending SMS’s, chatting, presentations and so on.[1]

**Keywords:-**Communication, Origin, Development, Channels, Qualities, Barriers Etc.



## INTRODUCTION

We, the human beings, being social creatures, do need to convey our ideas to our friends, neighbors, colleagues and subordinates. This activity of sharing our views and thoughts with others may take place for several purposes. It may be an order, an advice, a reprimand, information, a question and so on. Since communication presupposes a definite objective, it has its own science and art. One must learn and practice the skill of effective communication in order to succeed in the modern world.

- ❖ Where do we begin the story of Communication?

Communication in its barest, primeval form seems to come so naturally even to a child that there seems to be no need to study and cultivate it as a skill. Nature and instinct teach an infant how to attract its mother's attention when it is feeding-time; it cries, throws its tiny arms about, pedals its feet, and sometimes pulls at her

it possible for the human civilization take longer strides in its onward march; and the obligations and ambitions of a more civilized society motivate it to invent more effective vehicles of communication. One of the greatest gifts of civilization to mankind is language, and no communication can be complete without these semantic symbols called language, though we have other means than language too at our disposal.

- ❖ What is the nature of Communication? What can be its kind?
- ❖ The nature of communication is social, collective, extrovert, dynamic

dress. These sounds and gestures can be called

the basic, primitive means of communication. But as we grow, our requirements become more and more complex and we require more developed means and forms of communication. The evolution of communication skills from infancy to manhood can be taken as an allegory of the gradual development of the several techniques of communication in a rapidly changing world.

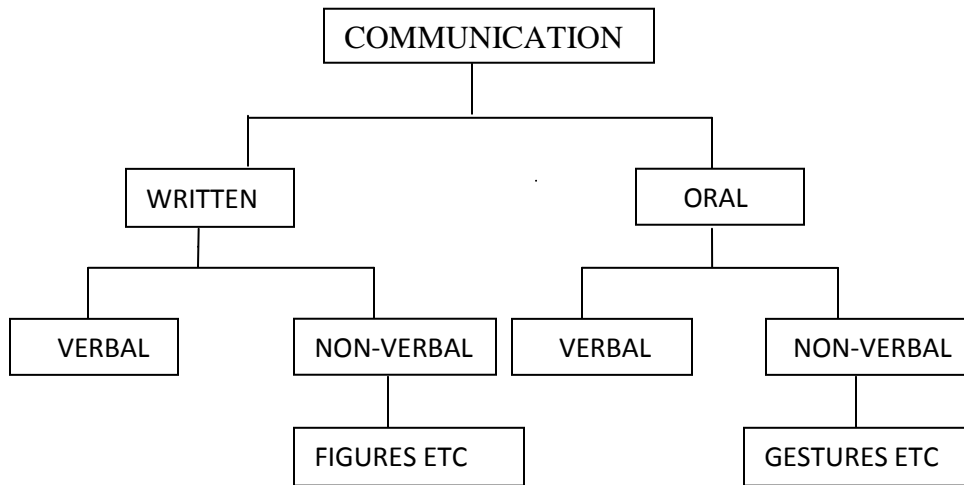
- ❖ What has been the role of Communication in the progress of Civilization?

As a matter of fact there exists a relationship of mutual support between civilization and communication. Each has contributed to the growth of the other. More and more efficient patterns of communication made

and multidimensional. It involves impression as well as expression. If it is used competently, communication can be very productive and delightful; if it is used awkwardly, it can spoil the whole business. Communication can be enlightening as well as misleading. In accordance with one's skill and proficiency.

Communication can be divided into two parts;

- (i) Written communication, and
- (ii) Oral communication.



As these terms indicate, the written communication makes use of the written word, while the oral communication makes use of speech. The former is naturally more formal and objective than the latter. In written communication, one has to exploit the verbal resources fully and solely; there is no other channel available to the person who is communicating to a man or a body or organization in that case unless we include figures, charts etc. use of which is limited to

- (i) Verbal communication
- (ii) Non-verbal communication

❖ What are the elements of Communication?

The elements of communication are mainly three:

- (i) Sender,
- (ii) Message,
- (iii) Receiver

like this:



very special occasions. But in oral communication there are some non-verbal means also available to the speaker. Sometimes these non-verbal vehicles succeed better than the verbal ones when a direct, person to person, contact is there, instead of the lifeless piece of paper that links the two persons in written communication. This leads us to another basis of categorizing communication:

We can also mention such elements as Encoding and Decoding of the message; the channel or the medium; the feedback; and the noises or the disturbances. The process can be understood in its simplicity



- ❖ What are the conditions that necessitate Communication? What is its objective? How do we achieve those objectives?

The conditions that create the need for communication are those in which one person feels obliged to convey some kind of message to the other. Here we are not concerned with persons who communicate with self or with nature or God. Their soliloquies, rhapsodies and prayers are their personal affair, having no need for communication skills which two individuals having different (their respective) mental attitudes must use. But communication between two persons, or more, has a definite purpose and it makes use of certain techniques to achieve that purpose. One might be responding to a query or asking for some information; one might be agreeing or disagreeing to some proposal.

The purposes of professional communication within an organization can be summed up in the following manner:

- To inform the workers and officials etc. What they are supposed to do.
- To collect some information vital to the making of a decision.
- To make inquiries, fix responsibilities, demand

explanations and enforce discipline.

- To advise or to seek advice.
- To appreciate a work, or to express disapproval.

The above mentioned factors lead to the conclusion that communication cannot be entirely a one-way process. Even when no response is supposed to be sent by the receiver to the sender, the communication should produce the intended effect. This can be possible only when we have an effective medium of communication.

One has to be mindful certain basic rules. For example, one man should not try to dominate a conversation. One should not agree or disagree without solid reasons. One should use the symbols for ideas (words) that have a common frame of reference. If our favorite expressions are unintelligible to others, these defeats are very purpose of communication.

Because of this last condition and its difficulties, communication can never be perfect. It being an exchange between two brains, and no two brains being exactly similar, some part of the meaning will be lost during the transmit of information from one mind to another. Our brain functions more like a filter than a funnel. The brain of the speaker or writer turns his conception



## Barriers to Communication

Communication is a process through which you convey your idea to someone or a group of people. It is said to be effective if the idea is conveyed clearly and unambiguously. In such a case, the message should reach the receiver with little deformation. Communication becomes successful only if the receiver understands what the sender is trying to convey. If your message is not clearly interpreted or the receiver does not give the desired feedback, you should understand that you are facing a communication barrier. The process of communication may be blocked due to many reasons. Many socio-psychologists believe that there is 50-70% loss of meaning while conveying the message from a sender to a receiver. You should understand these barriers as they can create hurdles in your professional and personal life too. The following are some of the major barriers:-

**1. Physical Barriers:** One of the major barriers to communication is the physical barrier. Physical barriers include large working areas that are physically separated from others. Distracting body movements can also create physical barriers. Other distraction that could cause physical barriers is the negative environment which is not conducive to healthy talks. Background noise may also affect the whole process of

**5. Cultural Barriers:** Intercultural communication has become more common in the present scenario than ever before. The differences in cultural values cause socio-cultural barriers. When we interact with a cross cultural group and wish to associate with it, we need to adopt the behavior patterns of the group. The group reverts

communication. One should try to minimize the elements that cause physical barriers.

**2. Psychological Barriers:** Our emotion could be a barrier to communication. If we are preoccupied with some emotions, we will have trouble listening to others or understanding the message conveyed to you. It can be due to many other reasons too hostility, anger, inhibitions, ego-hang-ups, personal prejudices, tiredness, pre-conceived notions, stress, lack of confidence and introvert nature.

**3. Linguistic Barriers:** Incapability or failure to communicate in a language that is known to both the sender and the receiver is the most crucial barrier to effective communication. Wrong or out of place words, mispronounced sounds, incorrect grammar and syntax as well as difference in accent, lack of clarity, could lead to misunderstanding between the sender and the receiver while conversing or writing. family backgrounds. If we weren't, we would have no need to communicate. We all see the world from different angles and if we lack the perspective to see other point's of view, we become the victim of the perceptual barrier.

**4. Perceptual Barriers:** The problem in communicating with others occurs because we all perceive things differently. This is because we are made and groomed differently due to our varied social, cultural and back by showing recognition and approval. When we are not able to adjust to the new setting, cultural barriers crop in. These are some of the major barriers which outburst the process of communication. In addition to them, goal mismatching i.e, communication with conflicting intentions, ineffective listening and impoliteness create

barriers that you may encounter during oral and written communication. These may be due to the medium or environment, or due to the persons engaged in communication. The barriers of communication may be such as the poor form of the communicated matter; the presence of distorting 'noises'- internal and external (i.e., an unsuitable mood, anxiety, distraction etc, and physical, environmental disturbances- interruptions, failure of mike or voice, some noisy activity-e.g., a parking place- in the neighborhood); very different perspectives and sympathies addressed to the same issues; and the absence of a language well-known to all the people participating in a conversation.

❖ How to overcome barriers to communication?

The solution to overcome these barriers is not simple or easy. Remedies are to be adopted according to situation. Here are some solutions to overcome communication barriers:

- Avoid physical distractions
- Emphasize with your receiver
- Try to understand your receiver's point of view
- Encode your message in a language that your receiver can interpret

and barriers of communication. But we cannot say that its finished.

## REFERENCES

[1]Mr. Bhatnagar Nitin, Mrs. Bhatnagar Mamta "Communicative English for Engineers and Professional"published by Dorling Kindersley (India) Pvt. Ltd,Pearson Education.2010.

[2]Dr.Gupta Rajhans"Communication Skills in English", Pragati Prakashan, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition 2011.Prof. Kharu P.N, Dr. Gandhi Varinder "Communication skills in English"University Science Press (An Imprint of Laxhmi Publications Pvt. Ltd.), Second Edition 2011, New Delhi

- While communicating be calm from within to avoid psychological barriers
- Listen and read effectively
- Understand cultural variations [1]

## Conclusion

Thus, the value or need of communication becomes imperative for us. However, it requires well developed skills to be acquired by man, called technically "Communication Skills". Communication can be a complicated process of give and take with innumerable intricacies and dimensions. The nature of communication is social, collective, dynamic and multi-dimensional. It involves impressions as well as expressions. If used competently, our communication can be very effective and productive and delightful too, but, if used badly, it can spoil the whole business. So communication can be purposeful, as well as misleading in accordance with one's skill and proficiency in this art. Communication is therefore, an art-an art of speaking and expressing our feelings, ideas and our experiences that we gain in our daily life. In short, our success or failure in dealing with others or in attaining success or otherwise in any of activity upon our communication skills. We can say that there is a vast area of communication that never ends. We have discussed about origin, development, nature