



Effective Communication – Teaching & Learning

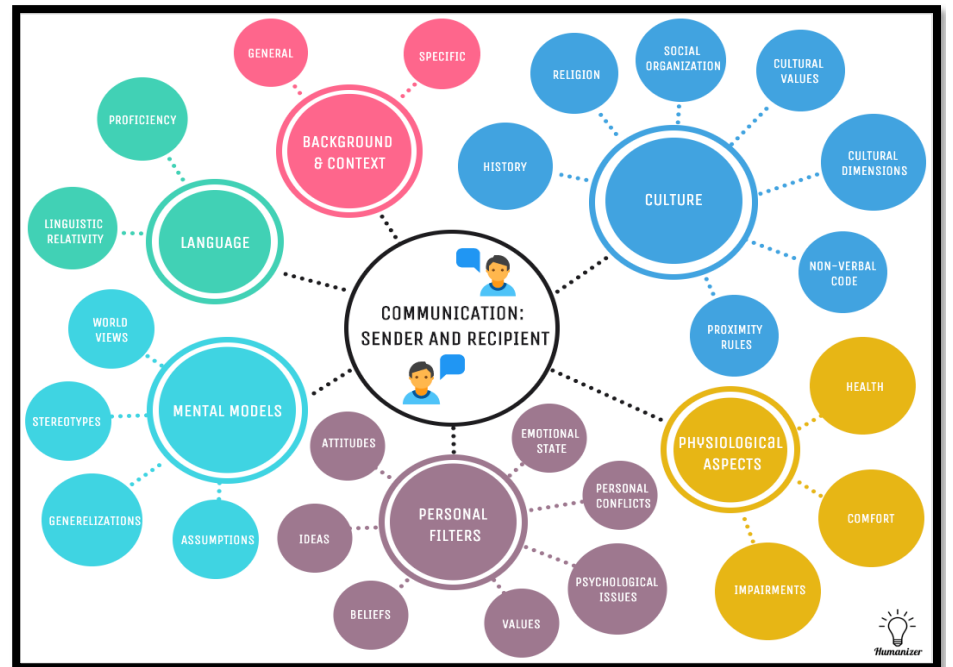
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The idea of communication within the scholastic field is not new, however, this process is experiencing new approaches when it comes to reflecting the role of communication in the execution of effective teaching and learning. Therefore, the necessity of communication efficiency within education (and especially higher education), represents a goal towards highlighting the inefficiencies and loopholes in the system and more so introducing ways of ameliorating the entire process. Very often people tend to confuse the concept of effective communication and its efficacy in any field. Communication is just the progression of data from the principal party (the source) to the second party (the receiver), regardless of whether the beneficiary has appropriately downloaded the message or not, while effective communication is the transmission of data in the very same manner the sender means to do. Effective communication is paramount in higher education as it is result-oriented. Merely communicating with the stakeholders without evaluating the results will lead to futile efforts. Whether it is teacher to student, student to student, teacher to teacher, teacher to parent, teacher to admin or admin to parent, admin to other stakeholders or vice versa, effective communication is needed to ensure smooth processes leading to quality and efficiency in this sector. It can help to build and foster a safe learning environment where all stakeholders can thrive, prosper, and learn.

In today's world, the concern for the need of efficient communication in higher education is a necessity for all education contractors because of the evolution in the education system pertaining to the ever-changing trends in the external environmental factors. One should change customary teaching and learning to an advanced and dynamic one that satisfies the present prerequisites and depends on productive correspondence. No longer is education allowed to draw the line at mere information gathering. We now live in a world of information and data: The Internet, modern means of communication, social media, consequently demanding capacity building, relevant trainings leading to professional development and new dimension of scholastic techniques. Therefore, we may not view education as a sheer teacher-to-student transfer of information, but as an entire process based upon efficient communication, feedback, and information exchange. In this perspective, contemporary higher education communication strategies, emphasizes on quality, performance assurance and knowledge.

As a result, it is now of utmost importance to mend our ways of communicating within the education system. This might require real reforms at all levels in the industry. A change of mindset is required regarding the educational process, transforming from objectives and contents to organizing and evaluation. Switching from the dominantly instructive to peer-assisted, constructive pedagogical methods; diverging from the informative and converging to formative feedback mechanisms. The aim should be to produce active learners rather than passive. Moreover, creating new evaluation methods according to the requirements of the modern student and continuously using contemporary technical means in the instructive / educational process to connect with the student to allow more effective assessment. The product of such a system would not only be an invaluable asset to the institute but to the society as well.

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Effective Communication leads to Effective Teaching and Learning in an Educational Setting



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For teaching and learning to be effective, it must support and enable learners to engage in a coherent experience of the taught content. Such constructive engagement is only possible when communication from both sides is comprehensible, clear, and simple. Any communication is only effective when it drives the intended results. In order to enable effective teaching and learning, the key is to ensure the communication is understandable for the receiver. This shall automatically enable interpretation /decoding to be proximate to the conveyed content in terms of processing, not only making it effective, but efficient as well.

Learners in higher education need to develop as independent learners. In order to inculcate and practice independence in education, study skills play a vital role in equipping learners to be better at communication and in application of their academics. As teachers, we work on our learners to develop the skillset that will equip them during their study tenure and later prove to be beneficial as well. To ensure the learning journey becomes swifter and feasible for students, it is of dire need that we as educationists tackle the requirement to be effective in communicating the aim and objectives, followed by learning outcomes to students and guarantee satisfactory results.

The right set of instructions equips learners with the opportunity to discuss and reflect on their achievement in classrooms, for projects, and in extracurricular settings that might follow. This is only possible when the students absorb and interpret the communication transmitted their way in the right tone and language. Twisted, complicated and unclear instruction/communication is only capable of leaving learners confused and hesitant most of the time. This in turn leads to impediments and insufficiency in deliverables, thereby resulting in delays in the entire process of teaching and learning owing to repetitive communication.

As educationists we must consider thorough reflection of our teaching styles and the communication involved in the entire regime to support teaching and learning in higher education classrooms. Feedback sharing amongst colleagues is a highly successful practice to support effective communication techniques. On the other hand, educationists can build group capacity by sharing best practices with the teaching and learning staff to benefit the entire student body, by and large.

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