

## DEVELOPING ENGLISH COMMUNICATION SKILLS: SOME USEFUL TIPS

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### ABSTRACT

The ability to communicate effectively in English has become exceedingly important in relationships, education and work-so far the twenty-first century globalized milieu is concerned; and this requires a typical dexterity and adroitness on the part of the communicator. This is because communication is basically the process of transferring signals/messages between a sender and a receiver, being the mechanism we use to establish and modify relationships in personal / professional sphere.

In this paper, I am mainly concerned about the development of English communication skills of English language learners, with English as a Foreign Language and English as a Second Language. Now, the edifice of English communication constitutes speaking, listening, reading and writing English in ways that reflect natural language use.

Speaking is an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves producing and receiving, and processing information. Speakers must be able to anticipate and then produce the expected patterns of specific discourse situations. An ideal speaker should avoid monotone and use dynamics. His/Her pitch should raise and lower periodically; and the speaker should 'animate' his/her voice as and when necessary. Radio DJs are usually a good example of this. Apart from that, one should observe the mouth movements of those who speak English well; and should try to imitate them. A speaker should watch television to do that; and should repeat what they are saying, while imitating the intonation and rhythm of their speech. Until the speaker learns the correct intonation and rhythm of English, he should slow his speech down. The meaning of the spoken words should be carried by way of voice-modulation; and by adhering to stress and intonation patterns. One should not speak too quickly and with a wrong intonation and rhythm, for native speakers will have a hard time understanding him. One should not rather worry about his listener getting impatient with his slow speech, for it is more important that everything the communicator says should be understood.

**KEYWORDS:** Development of English Communication Skills, Ideal Speaker, Lower Periodically, 'Animate'