

Barriers in Communication

This far we have seen what we mean by the process of communication. But, at times even after taking care of every other detail some misunderstandings arise. So, to eliminate these misunderstanding, we have to understand the most common barriers to effective communication. Let us see what these Barriers of Communication are!

Linguistic Barriers:- The language barrier is one of the main barriers that limit effective communication. Language is the most commonly employed tool of communication. The fact that each major region has its own language is one of the barriers to effective communication. Even in the same workplace, different employees will have different linguistic skills. As a result, the communication channels that span across the organization would be affected by this.

Psychological Barriers:- There are various mental and psychological issues that may be barriers to effective communication. Some people have stage fear, speech disorders, phobia, depression, etc. All of these conditions are very difficult to manage sometimes and will most certainly limit the ease of communication.

Emotional Barriers:- The emotional IQ of a person determines the ease and comfort with which they can communicate. A person who is emotionally mature will be able to communicate effectively. On the other hand, people who let their emotions take over will face certain difficulties.

A perfect mixture of emotions and facts is necessary for effective communication. Emotions like anger, frustration, humour can blur the decision-making capacity of a person and thus limit the effectiveness of their communication.

Physical Barriers:- They are the most obvious barriers to effective communication. These barriers are mostly easily removable in principle at least. They include barriers like noise, closed doors, closed cabins, faulty equipment etc. used for communication. Sometimes in a large office, the physical separation between various employees combined with faulty equipment may result in severe barriers to effective communication.

Cultural Barriers:- As the world is getting more and more globalized, any large office may have people from several parts of the world. Different cultures have a different meaning for several basic values of society. Dressing, Religions or lack of them, food, drinks, pets and the general behaviour will change drastically from one culture to another.

Organisational Structure Barrier:- As we saw there are many methods of communication at an organizational level, each of these methods has its own problem and constraints that may become barriers to effective communication.

Attitude Barrier:- Certain people like to be left alone. They are the introverts or just people who are not very social. Others like to be social or sometimes extra clingy; Both these cases could become a barrier of communication.

Physiological Barriers:- Certain disorders or diseases or other limitations could also prevent effective communication between the various channels of an organization. The shrillness of voice, dyslexia, etc. are some examples of physiological barriers to effective communication.

Technological Barriers:- Other barriers include the technological barriers. The technology is developing fast and as a result, it becomes difficult to keep up with the newest developments. Hence, sometimes the technological advancement may become a barrier. In addition to this, the cost of technology is sometimes very high.

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