





Communicating seventh edition for Results

A Guide for Business and the Professions



Communicating for Results

seventh edition

A Guide for Business and the Professions Cheryl Hamilton





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In loving memory of Dr. C. Cordell Parker

About the Author



CHERYL HAMILTON, a native of Illinois, received her bachelor's degree from Eastern Illinois University, her master's degree from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana, and her doctoral degree from the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas. In addition to Communicating for Results, Dr. Hamilton is also the author of Essentials of Public Speaking. She has conducted a number of research studies, one published in the Community College Journal of Research and Practice. She has presented more than thirty-two papers at professional conventions such as the National Communication Association, the Southwest Educational Research Association, Western Communication Association, and the Texas Speech Communication Association. In addition to thirty years of award-winning teaching at the college level, Dr. Hamilton has conducted seminars for such groups as the Center for Professional Communication, Neeley Business School at TCU; the National Property Management Association; Bell Helicopter Textron; the U.S. Postal Department; the North Central Regional Police Academy; and LTV Aerospace.

Preface

The importance of effective communication skills in organizations is ever increasing. Managers and employees who are skilled communicators have fewer misunderstandings, make fewer mistakes, create less waste, and deal with disagreements more effectively. Thus, they are more productive. And in this time of global marketing, downsizing, and continuing technological advances, good communication skills are essential.

Communicating for Results, Seventh Edition, is directed at those who are interested in self-improvement. It is designed to introduce necessary communication skills to people with very little work experience, to improve the communication skills of entry-level managers and employees, and to serve as a reference book for experienced professionals who wish to refresh or update their communication skills.

This text emphasizes important skills from three basic communication areas: interpersonal and organizational, interviewing and group, and public. *Interpersonal and organizational skills* include understanding organizational communication; improving communication and relationships with bosses, employees, and customers; handling conflict; improving listening; interpreting and using nonverbal communication; decreasing misunderstandings with others, whether face-to-face or electronically; and overcoming obstacles to communication. *Interviewing and group skills* include preparing conventional, scannable, e-mail, and Web resumes; conducting or participating in interviews of various types; knowing what questions are unlawful in preemployment interviews; conducting and participating in conferences; and making decisions in small groups. *Public communication skills* include giving individual or team presentations to employees, managers, and groups inside or outside the organization; using effective organization and delivery techniques for traditional and Web presentations; preparing professional visual aids; and knowing how to manage presentation software.

Although the chapters in this book may be read in any order, they are organized so that each chapter builds on the skills taught in those preceding it. The skills are discussed practically and lend themselves to immediate application. In other words, what is read today can be applied at work tomorrow. Activities within the chapters (Awareness Checks) and at the end of chapters (Checkpoints) suggest ways for readers to practice new skills and techniques. The Communicating for Results CD-ROM, Book Companion Web Site, and Instructor's Resource Manual feature additional application activities, test questions, and more.

Communicating for Results, Seventh Edition, not only features a skills orientation, but also provides readers with the theoretical basis for each skill discussed. It is my hope that readers will find this book valuable and that they will add it to their personal libraries.

Features of the New Edition

The Seventh Edition has been significantly revised and updated. In addition to a new full-color design and a brand new photo and cartoon program, this edition features a number of updated sources and new examples. Additionally, the Seventh Edition introduces a new feature: an Ethical Dilemma box in each chapter (see the next page for details). While preserving the writing style that students applaud, each chapter is now more concise and has been thoroughly updated. Other new and revised features include:

- New Communicating for Results CD-ROM, which features a variety of videotaped business scenarios and informative and persuasive presentations, analysis questions that students can answer and e-mail to their instructors, and author rejoinders to each analysis question
- Revised Communicating for Results Book Companion Web Site, accessible only through the Communicating for Results CD-ROM, that features quizzing and chapter-specific resources such as interactive glossaries, the end-of-chapter Checkpoint activities, InfoTrac College Edition activities, continually updated Web links, and more
- New Survey of Communication Styles—short form to accompany the tear-out long form at the beginning of the book—both forms are also accessible at the Book Companion Web Site
- New **Technology Update boxes** in all chapters (formerly called Face-to-Face with Technology) that succinctly present students with the most current information on technology, our interactions with that technology, and the effect that technology has on the individual and the organization
- New Ethical Dilemma boxes in all chapters that ask students to think critically about how they might handle questionable situations in the working world
- Several new Awareness Check activity boxes throughout the text
- New chapter openers that include a chapter-opener photograph, a quotation that reflects the theme of the chapter, and Ever Wonder preview questions to capture reader interest and lead them into chapter content
- New discussion of communication theories throughout (attribution theory, information-integration theory, consistency theories, elaboration likelihood theory, and social judgment theory)
- Increased coverage of culture and diversity throughout
- Updated section on communication and ethics (Chapter 1)
- New section on listening to coworkers and global listening tips (Chapter 4)
- Revised section on Hall's levels of culture (Chapter 5)
- Updated section on clothing and personal appearance, including the Casual Confusion Syndrome (Chapter 5)
- New section on power behaviors (Chapter 5)
- Updated and expanded coverage of sexual harassment (Chapter 6)
- Updated sections on types of resumes and resume writing (Chapter 8)
- New discussion of the combination resume, which includes both chronological and functional aspects (Chapter 8)
- Revised section on impression management (Chapter 8)
- Updated sections on electronic meetings and e-mail (Chapter 9)
- Updated lists of sample informative and persuasive topics (Chapters 11 and 14)
- New sample visual aids (Chapter 13)
- New discussion of Microsoft PowerPoint 2003 in the PowerPoint tutorial (Chapter 13)

Additional Student and Instructor Resources

- InfoTrac® College Edition. An easy to use online library is also packaged with each new edition. A *free* four-month subscription to this extensive easy-to-use database of reliable, full-length articles (not abstracts) from hundreds of top academic journals and popular sources is ideal for helping your students master online research and is especially useful when students are preparing speeches.
- Student Workbook by Lisa Benedetti of Tarrant County College Northeast and Bobbi Rhe Stringer, Ph.D., of Tarrant County College Northwest. The student

- workbook offers chapter objectives and outlines, lists of important concepts that students can use to facilitate note-taking in class, skill-building activities, Internet activities and lists of helpful Web pages, and self-tests. The workbook can be bundled with the text at a discount.
- Instructor's Resource Manual with Test Bank by Lisa Benedetti of Tarrant County College Northeast, Bobbi Rhe Stringer, Ph.D., of Tarrant County College Northwest, and Debi Blankenship of Tarrant County College Northeast. This indispensable manual features teaching tips, suggestions for online instruction, sample course outlines, lists of useful media resources, detailed chapter outlines, skill-building activities, transparency masters, forms and checklists, and an extensive test bank.
- ExamView® is a fully integrated collection of test creation, delivery, and classroom management tools that feature all of the test items found in the Instructor's Resource Manual.
- Multimedia Presentation Manager: Microsoft® PowerPoint® Presentation Tool by Dan Cavanaugh, Ph.D. This presentation tool contains a searchable database of PowerPoint slides tailored to the Seventh Edition, including text art and cued video clips, many from CNN. Instructors can import information from previously created lectures into the program.
- Thomson Learning WebTutor™ Toolbox for WebCT and Blackboard. A Webbased teaching and learning tool that takes a course beyond classroom boundaries to an anywhere, anytime environment. WebTutor Toolbox for Communicating for Results corresponds chapter-by-chapter and topic-by-topic with the book, including flashcards (with audio), practice quizzes, and online tutorials. Instructors can use WebTutor Toolbox to provide virtual office hours, post syllabi, set up threaded discussions, and track student progress on the practice quizzes.

Acknowledgments

A loving acknowledgment goes to my long-time colleague and coauthor, Dr. C. Cordell Parker. Cordell retired from teaching in May 2003 and was planning to concentrate on consulting—he had retired from writing several editions ago. He had just received a complete medical checkup and was told he was in excellent health. But three weeks later, while working at his computer, Cordell experienced a massive heart attack and died instantly. Although all of his family and friends are relieved that he did not suffer, his sudden loss is a hard thing to bear. We will miss you, Cordell!

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Cheryl Hamilton Ft. Worth, Texas

Brief Contents

Chapter 1	The Communication Process: An Introduction	2	
Chapter 2	Organizational Communication 24		
Chapter 3	Improving Interpersonal Relationships 54		
Chapter 4	Effective Listening 82		
Chapter 5	Nonverbal Communication in the Organization	102	
Chapter 6	Overcoming Obstacles to Organizational Communication 126		
Chapter 7	Basic Information for All Types of Interviews	154	
Chapter 8	The Employment Interview 174		
Chapter 9	Small-Group Communication and Problem Solving 206		
Chapter 10	Participation and Leadership in Small Groups 230		
Chapter 11	Informative Presentations 250		
Chapter 12	Researching, Supporting, and Delivering Your Ideas 276		
Chapter 13	Professional Visual Aids 298		
Chanter 14	Persuasive Presentations: Individual or Team	333	

Awareness Checks

Communicator Quiz 19

Organization Models 50

Styles Survey—Short Form 61

Communicator Styles 70

Listening Skills 85

Gender Barriers 92

Nonverbal Symbols Across Cultures 123

Positive Imagery 133

Giving Instructions 135

Facts Versus Inferences 141

Meanings of Terms 142

Types of Questions 167

Lawful and Unlawful Questions 200

Use of Criteria 221

Leadership Trait Questionnaire 238

Leadership Function Questionnaire 239

Least Preferred Coworker (LPC) Measure 241

Situational Leadership Questionnaire 244

Charisma Quotient 245

Organization Patterns 260

Supporting Materials 292

Identifying Basic Needs 345

- -51

Detailed Contents

Preface xix

Chapter 1 The Communication Process: An Introduction 2

Communication Defined 4

Ethical Dilemma 5

The Basic Model of Communication 5

Person A/Person B 6
Stimulus and Motivation 6
Encoding and Decoding 6
Frame of Reference 7

Code 10 Channel 12 Feedback 14

■ Technology Update 17 Environment 17 Noise 18

Communication and Ethics 18

Awareness Check: Communicator Quiz 19

Summary 22

Communicating for Results Online 23

Checkpoints 23 / InfoTrac College Edition® Exercise: Codes of Ethics 23

Chapter 2 Organizational Communication 24

Communication Inside the Organization 26

Formal Communication 26

- Ethical Dilemma 27
- Technology Update 28 Informal Communication 29

Coordination of People and Groups 31

Organization Models 32

The Traditional (or Classical) Model 34

The Human Relations Model 38

The Human Resources Model 41

The Systems/Contingency Model 45

The Transformational Model 47

Communication Differences in the Organization Models 50

Awareness Check: Organization Models 50

Summary 52

Communicating for Results Online 53

Checkpoints 53 / InfoTrac College Edition Exercise:

Organizational Communication 53







Chapter 3 Improving Interpersonal Relationships 54

Interpersonal Relationships and Organizational Success 56

Developing and Maintaining Relationships 57

Clear Expectations 57

- Technology Update 57
- Ethical Dilemma 58

Reciprocal Nature of Interpersonal Relationships 58

Communication Styles and Business Relationships 59

Awareness Check: Styles Survey—Short Form 61

The Closed Style 62

The Blind Style 64

The Hidden Style 66

The Open Style 68

Awareness Check: Communicator Styles 70

Practical Tips for Relating with People of Different Styles 70

Managing Conflicts in Business Relationships 73

Conflict Strategies 74

Conflict Strategies: When to Use Them 75

Becoming Flexible in Use of Styles 78

Using Feedback Effectively 78

Using Disclosure Effectively 78

Summary 80

Communicating for Results Online 81

Checkpoints 81 / InfoTrac College Edition Exercise:

Conflict Resolution 81



Chapter 4 **Effective Listening** 82

Ethical Dilemma 84

The Importance of Effective Listening in Organizations 84

Listening to Customers 84

Awareness Check: Listening Skills 85

Listening to Employees 85

Listening to Supervisors 87

Listening to Coworkers 88

Signs of Poor Listening 89

Breaking the Chain of Command 89

Learning About Events Too Late 89

Always Putting Out Fires 89

Information Must Be Repeated 90

Tasks Given to Others 90

Increase in Written Communication 90

Causes of Poor Listening 90

Physical Barriers 90

Personal Barriers 91

Gender Barriers 91

Mareness Check: Gender Barriers 92

Semantic Barriers 93 Bad Listening Habits 93

■ Technology Update 94

Improving Listening Skills 95

Understanding the Stages of Listening 95 Listening More Each Day 98 Improving Your Listening—Key Points 99

Payoffs of Effective Listening 99

Summary 100

Communicating for Results Online 101

Checkpoints 101 / InfoTrac College Edition Exercise:

Listening 101

Chapter 5 Nonverbal Communication in the Organization 102

Ethical Dilemma 104

Nonverbal Communication: Definition and Principles 104

Technical Level 105 Formal Level 105 Informal Level 105

Types of Nonverbal Communication and Their Effects on Business Communication 106

Facial Expressions and Eye Contact 106
Other Body Movements and Gestures 109
Clothing and Personal Appearance 110
Distance and Personal Space 112
Physical Environment 115
Time 116

Nonverbal Status Symbols in Business 117

■ Technology Update 117

Nonverbal Messages and International

Business Transactions 121

Immediacy Behaviors 122

Improving Nonverbal Skills 122

Awareness Check: Nonverbal Symbols Across Cultures 123

Summary 124

Communicating for Results Online 125

Checkpoints 125 / InfoTrac College Edition Exercise:

Culture and Nonverbal Behaviors 125

Chapter 6 Overcoming Obstacles to Organizational Communication 126

Communicator Anxiety 128

Situational Anxiety 128

Ethical Dilemma 129





Technology L	130	
Trait Anxiety	131	

Awareness Check: Positive Imagery 133

Inadequate Preparation 134

Vague Instructions 135

Awareness Check: Giving Instructions 135

Jumping to Conclusions 140

Awareness Check: Facts Versus Inferences 141

Bypassing 141

Awareness Check: Meanings of Terms 142

Sexual Harassment 143

Communication Technology 145

E-mail 147

Electronic Meetings 148

■ Communication Situation: Hasty Resignation 149

Summary 152

Communicating for Results Online 153

Checkpoints 153 / InfoTrac College Edition Exercise: James McCroskey 153



Chapter 7

Basic Information for All Types of Interviews 154

Ethical Dilemma 156

Types of Interviews 156

Counseling Interview 156

Employment Interview 156

Exit Interview 156

Grievance or Confrontation Interview 157

Group Interview 157

Informational Interview 158

Interrogation Interview 159

Media Interview 159

Performance Review 160

Persuasive Interview 160

Basic Interview Organization 161

Opening Phase 161

Question-Response Phase 162

Closing Phase 163

Using Questions Effectively in the Interview 163

Determine the Types of Questions to Ask 163

- Awareness Check: Types of Questions 167
 Decide How to Best Organize Questions 167
 Be Prepared to Answer Questions 169
- Technology Update 171
- Communication Situation: Performance Review 171

Summary 172

Communicating for Results Online 173

Checkpoints 173 / InfoTrac College Edition Exercise:

Interviewing 173

Chapter 8 The Employment Interview 174

Ethical Dilemma 176

Responsibilities of the Interviewee 176

Investigate the Employment Market 176
Prepare a Conventional Paper Resume 177
Prepare a Scannable Resume 181
Prepare an E-mail (ASCII) Resume 184

■ Technology Update 184
Prepare a Web (HTML) Resume 187
Prepare a Letter of Application 188
Have a Positive Attitude 189
Communicate and Dress for the Occasion—Impression Management 189
Be Prepared for Any Type of Interview 191
Carefully Plan Answers to Probable Questions 193
Be Prepared with Questions to Ask the Interviewer 194
Be Prepared to Follow Up the Interview 195

Send a Thank-You Note or Card 195 **Responsibilities of the Interviewer** 195

Communicate with the Interviewee Before the Interview 195
Plan the Environment 196
Organize the Interview Carefully 196
Ask Only Lawful Questions 199

- Awareness Check: Lawful and Unlawful Questions 200
 Listen Carefully to the Interviewee 201
 Clarify and Verify Responses; Avoid False Inferences 202
- Communication Situation: Employment Interview 202

Summary 204

Communicating for Results Online 205

Checkpoints 205 / InfoTrac College Edition Exercise: Articles on Leaders and Leadership 205

Chapter 9 Small-Group Communication and Problem Solving 206

Definition of a Small Group 208

Use and Value of Teams in the Effective Organization 209

- Ethical Dilemma 209
- Technology Update 210

Characteristics of Effective Problem-Solving Teams 210

Effective Teams Are Well Organized 210
Effective Teams Receive Periodic Training 210
Effective Teams Examine Assumptions and Opinions 211



