**Communication**

**One great advantage of modern communication is it lets you know that somewhere the snow is deeper. *(Bill Vaughan, United Feature Syndicate)***

**You’ve got to tell the world how to treat you. If the world tells you how you are going to be treated, you are in trouble. *(James Baldwin)***

**Haven’t you got anything better to do than communicate? *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Scientists, describing how we communicate with our bodies, especially the hands, say that only one person in a hundred, when asked to describe a corkscrew, can do it without twirling a finger. *(Bits & Pieces) 49023***

**People aren’t talking to each other any more. They’re sitting in front of a television set and letting other people talk to them. My parents always had a ritual. Every night they would go out together for a walk and the kids stayed home. And during that period while they walked, which was maybe an hour, they talked about the things they needed to talk about, and they never became strangers. *(Leo Buscaglia)***

**Science may never come up with a better office communication system than the coffee break. *(Earl Wilson)***

**More and more we are into communications; and less and less into communication. *(Studs Terkel)***

**Man: “I’m sorry I’ve been kinda cranky the past couple days.” Woman: “Have you? I didn’t notice, so don’t worry about it.” The man then thinks to himself: “I don’t know whether to feel relieved or insulted.”*(Ted Dawson, in Spooner comic strip)***

**Even if you do learn to speak correct English, whom are you going to speak it to? *(Clarence Darrow, attorney)***

**One dog to another, over the fence: "When are they going to learn we're not just barking -- we're networking." *(G. Abbott, in The Wall Street Journal)***

**When you were a child, some of you were able to speak to dolls and the dolls spoke back, and you know they spoke back. Why don’t they speak back anymore? *(Dr. Paul Brenner)***

**The most important thing in communication is to hear what isn’t being said. *(Peter F. Drucker)***

**After friends of mine landed at busy Newark Airport, they were unable to attract the attention of any porters to help with their luggage. In desperation, the husband took out a five-dollar bill, and waved it above the crowd. In an instant, a skycap was at his side. "Sir, observed the porter, "you certainly have excellent communication skills." *(Peter S. Safran, in Reader's Digest)***

**Good communication is not how much you talk, but how well you listen. *(Submitted by Gabriel Gonzales, of Marietta Georgia, quoting his mother, Ana)***

**The growth of the Internet has far exceeded other forms of communication. It took 38 years for radio to reach 50 million viewers, 13 years for TV, and only five years for the Internet. *(Charlotte Lowe, in Fact-O-Pedia, p. 129)***

**It does seem so pleasant to talk with an old acquaintance who knows what you know. I see so many new folks nowadays, who seem to have neither past nor future. Conversation has got to have some root in the past, or else you have got to explain every remark you make, and it wears a person out. *(Sarah Orne Jewett)***

**First-time visitors to Hawaii learn at least two new words: Aloha, meaning “Hello,” and Mahalo, meaning “Thank you.” So I was shocked when I heard a frequent visitor tell a newcomer that Mahalo was the Hawaiian word for “garbage.” I asked where she learned that. She replied, “Well, it says that on all the garbage cans.” *(Marlene Freedman, in Chevron USA)***

**Motivation is everything … and the only way to motivate people is to communicate with them. It’s important to talk to people in their own language. If you do it well, they’ll say, “… he said exactly what I was thinking.” And when they begin to respect you, they’ll follow you to the death. *(Lee Iacocca, in Iacocca)***

**If in your drive to get it said, you do not wish to be interrupted, just don’t look at the eyes of the potential interrupter. Eye contact is what the interrupter needs. So advises a student of such matters. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Remember that as a teenager you are at the last stage in your life when you are happy to hear that the phone is for you. *(Fran Lebowitz, writer) 4239811***

**Good c*o*mmunication is as stimulating as black coffee, and just as hard to sleep after. *(Anne Morrow Lindbergh, in Gift From the Sea)***

**The child says to Santa: “Listen up, fat boy! You didn’t get me that pony I asked for last Christmas! What we have here is a failure to communicate!” *(Tom Wilson, in Ziggy comic strip)***

**The more people are reached by mass communication, the less they communicate with each other. *(Marya Mannes, journalist)***

**How much time do you devote to conversation with your matrimonial mate? If only about 20 minutes a week, you’re right at the national average, report the researchers. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Forget about a waiter coming to the table to announce today’s specials. Quarry Street Café in the Old City area of Philadelphia sends customers an E-mail each day listing the lunch menu and specials. *(Philadelphia Inquirer Magazine)***

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**After weeks with my colicky newborn, I was at wits’ end. My husband suggested I try to “bond” with the baby. In frustration one morning, after my son had been crying for hours, I phoned my husband at work. Before he could say hello, I let our son scream into the receiver. Then I hung up. An hour passed, and my husband finally called back. I asked what took him so long. He said he was in a meeting all morning and when he returned to his desk he found a note saying: “Your son called.” *(Jean Sorensen, in Reader’s Digest)***

***The* President of the United States receives more than 20,000 letters in the mail every day. *(Russ Edwards & Jack Kreismer, in The Bathroom Trivia Digest, p. 59)***

**The more elaborate our means of communication, the less we communicate. *(Joseph Priestley, scientist)***

**Man the battle stations! Somebody’s coming who wants to reason with us. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Dentist: “I’m afraid we’re talking root canal, Lars. 500 bucks.” Lars: “Sorry, but I don’t speak fluent root canal, could you translate?” *(J. C. Duffy, in The Fusco Brothers comic strip)***

**Through the medium of our reason, our knowledge and our will hold the mysterious dialogue with one another which defines our spiritual being. *(Albert Schweitzer)***

**Dr. Herbert H. Clark, s psychologist from John Hopkins University, discovered, that it takes the average person about 48 percent longer to understand a sentence using a negative than it does to understand a positive, or affirmative sentence. This is confirmation of something every successful person knows: the secret of good communication is positive affirmation. It is not what you won’t or can’t do that interests people, but what you will or can do. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**You can’t expect a man to see eye to eye with you when you’re looking down on him. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**The single, biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place. *(George Bernard Shaw)***

**Lambs recognize their mothers by their bleats. Sheep are actually great communicators that make a variety of sounds that the rest of the flock understands. A sheep separated from its flock for a year or more will be recognized once it is returned to the group. It’s hard to sneak up on a sheep, as they have a 270-degree radius of view. *(Tidbits)***

**Centuries ago, when a shoemaker worked alone he talked to himself. Well, not exactly. To his nails. He addressed them by name, and asked them how they were doing, and so on. It was a tradition of that profession. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Weary father of four-year-old to wife: "Talk! Talk! Talk! Thank heavens, in a few years he'll be a teenager and we won't be able to communicate with him!" *(Lepper, King Features)***

**To touch a child's face, a dog's smooth coat, a petaled flower, the rough surface of a rock is to set up new orders of brain motion. To touch is to communicate. *(James W. Angell, in Yes Is a World)***

**David Rhoades, a zoologist and chemist at the University of Washington, reopened questions of plant communication. Rhoades had watched a nearby forest be decimated by an invasion of caterpillars. But then something suddenly changed; the caterpillars began to die. Why? The answer, Rhoades discovered, was that the trees were communicating with one another. Trees that the caterpillars hadn’t yet reached were ready. They’d changed the composition of their leaves, turning them into weapons that would poison, and eventually kill, the caterpillars. Scientists were beginning to understand that trees communicate through their roots, but this was different. The trees, too far apart to be connected by a root system, were signaling one another through the air. Plants are tremendous at chemical synthesis, Rhoades knew. And certain plant chemicals drift through the air. *(Zoe Schlanger, in The Atlantic magazine, June, 2024, on page 22)***

**The word “trivia” comes from the Latin for “three ways.” More specifically, it alluded to what we now call a three-way intersection. At such crossroads, people stopped to trade small talk. And so the talk itself came to be called trivia. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**My husband is in the Air Force, and we were recently stationed in Japan. The first few weeks were busy with adjusting to the new customs and culture. We were amazed to see the friendliness of the Japanese children. Whenever we drove through town, the children would be standing on the side of the road, waving at us. I would give them a big smile and wave back. Weeks later I learned that in Japan children will wave their hands to stop traffic so they can cross the street. *(Donna Brosh, in Reader’s Digest)***

**About 80 percent of the talking you do each day is to yourself. (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 248)***

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