What is the opposite of Speaking?

Listening? Waiting To jump in and reply...

ways to listen better

Listen to understand Seek to understand before being understood

Ask clarifying questions and encourage the speaker to tell you more

Don't interrupt

Resist the urge to *respond* and focus on understanding

Note down thoughts and questions for later but let the conversation flow

Show you care

Be an active and engaged listener

Reflect back what you hear. Maintain eye contact and use open gestures

Listen with your ears & your intuition Pay attention to the speaker's tone and notice what they are *not* saying

Often, the most important truths lie between the words and in the silences.

Don't rush to fix stuff Resist the urge to reframe or offer solutions

Make space for the speaker to share what is on their mind, especially the hard stuff

And finally & most importantly... Be genuinely interested in the person in front of you

Acknowledge their value - everyone has something meaningful to share if you are willing to listen to it