**Communication - Movie review**

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**Movie: Lost in Translation (2003)**

**General Overview of the Film**

The movie 'Lost in translation' is a middle-aged American movie that is incredibly amazing with a properly controlled performance. The movie puts Sofia Coppola in a unique motion picture that can make any view to question whether she was genuinely engaged in developing the play independently (Coppola et al., 2003). The movie comprises beautiful photographs of the nighttime Tokyo and the lovely scene of the other two characters who are holding a conversation as reflected by the glass window. The movie is about an 'accidental' relationship between Bill Murray (Bob), an international actor who finds himself in Tokyo, and Scarlett Johansson (Charlotte), a Yale University graduate. The first encounter of the characters is quite casual as they meet on an elevator in the bar. However, with time, both Bob and Charlotte begin to spend more time together, leading to a strong bond. Considering the bond that resulted, the two ended up spending every single hour together, as they continuously held deep conversations with one another. The conversations mostly aimed at finding better ways through which they could relate to avoid parting way. However, parting ways was the ultimate thing that had to occur. Therefore, the movie demonstrated how people related on a personal level.

**The Most Competent Communicator in the Movie**

Charlotte is the most competent communicator in the movie. The significance of communication between them is demonstrated right from their first meeting and during their trips. Charlotte seems to be bored more concerned about being with Bob, who is quite lively than the husband (Coppola et al., 2003). Therefore, to win his heart, she had to be open, and she described what she was going through in her marriage. At that time, they began to be open to each other to let each other know about their culture and beliefs. However, even after noticing the difference in their culture, they all are fine to withstand the differences. This means that both of them communicated more competently with Charlotte, contributing more to the conversations.

**Culture and Gender Difference That Impact Interpersonal Communication in the Movie**

In the movie, Bob and Charlotte do not seem to have very diverse cultural differences because they are all Americans in Tokyo. However, the Japanese culture that they are currently lost seems to interrupt interpersonal communication, especially when they encounter the Japanese citizens in the various settings they visited. An example is a situation that Bob found himself in when he was in the hospital room. While in the hospital room, a stranger talk to him in the Japanese language, but Bob could not reply. The best language he could use to communicate to the Japanese mimics some syllables, and the man begins to laugh at him (Coppola et al., 2003). However, Bob remained calm even if the stranger ridiculed him, knowing very well that they were culturally different.

On the other hand, Sofia talks about gender difference as another element that impacted interpersonal communication. For example, she explains how a group of adolescent boys found it difficult to communicate with beautiful girls. To break through the girls' enhanced castle was too difficult to the extent that they opted to watch the girls and send them coded messages through phonographs. This demonstrated that femininity had become populous in the country that caused fear in many men to communicate with them.

**The Influence of Charlotte's Perception on her Relationship with Bob**

Charlotte, the film's main character, has a different perception about marriage that she used to observe in her husband. Therefore, it was a moment to affirm whether her husband's behavior was portrayed by all other men, pushing Charlotte to find another partner. Charlotte felt as though she was always lonely despite having a husband because he did not give her the attention required, which made her think she did not belong to Bob (Coppola et al., 2003). The perception of loneliness as exhibited by Charlotte played a crucial role in informing her need to be in a relationship with Bob, which ended up taking place as soon as possible. As a result, the relationship between Charlotte and her husband John was greatly affected.

According to my perception about the movie, I consider it a smart film that does not want to show the readers what informed the characters' relationship. There was nothing much about Bob and Charlotte's relationships other than the sexual undercurrents, which does not sustain a relationship for long. Therefore, Charlotte made a bad decision by deciding to abandon her husband, John, who appeared not to be giving the attention she needed because of his busy schedule.

**Language Use in the Movie**

The three types of language use shown among the various characters include; conversation, which is the most common as Bob and Charlotte frequently engaged each other in deep conversations. Secondly, recitation is also evident in the movie as the Japanese repeatedly used the Japanese language to recite phrases to strangers (Coppola et al., 2003). Lastly, narration is another type of language use used in the film. Sofia continually uses various stories to narrate to the readers how impactful the movie is.

**Non-verbal communication in the movie**

The first non-verbal communication is seen between Bob and the Japanese hospital attendant, where Bob mimics some syllables to the attendant who addressed him in Japanese. Secondly, the adolescent boys that Sofia talks about could only watch the beautiful girls and send coded messages to communicate. Thirdly, both Bob and Charlotte always smiled, nodded, and laughed whenever they interacted with the Japanese. On the other hand, effective listening enabled both Bob and Charlotte to listen to non-verbal communication and respond appropriately.

**Portraying Emotion in the Movie by the Main Characters**

To portray his emotion, Bob Harris does extraordinary things through his comedy to show how frustrated he was in the relationship. His life was not the same again, and he always felt that he was lost immediately he decided to fall in love with Charlotte (Coppola et al., 2003). Through his expression of emotions, Bob manages to come to his senses and understand who he was. Thus, his role in the movie became more compelling, which would capture the readers' attention. On the other hand, Charlotte feels disoriented considering her recent marriage's impacts. When she met Bob, she could not hide her happiness because the uncaring man is no longer in her life. Therefore, to express her joy, she always smiled at Bob, an indication that Charlotte was very excited (Coppola et al., 2003). Lastly, Sofia extensively relied on what is known as the universal emotions of loneliness to express and portray how both Bob and Charlotte found comfort in one another. In the end, both of them are advised on how best they could face their future without one another.

**Conflict and Power in the Movie**

In the movie, Bob seems to be in constant conflict with his inner self as their relationship with Charlotte continued. He always felt as if he made the worst decision to spend more time with Charlotte instead of completing his mission. As a result, the continuous inner conflicts greatly impacted how he related with Charlotte. The same applied to Charlotte whom her inner conflicts made her abandon her husband for Bob because the husband did not spend more time with her. On the other hand, the aspect of power is portrayed when Bob tells Charlotte that she was far better than her husband, John. Therefore, she should not allow him to control her. Thus, as the movie ends, the reader is confronted with the concept of power in between.

**Supportive Communication Climate in the Movie**

Among the supportive communication climate present in the movie include treating one another with respect. This is evident from the first time Bob and Charlotte met. Right behind the glasses, the reflections demonstrated that both of them listened to each other carefully without any interruption. In the process, each of them had an excellent opportunity to share their experiences and feelings. Both of them also appeared friendly to each other, which provided them with more time to interact and communicate continually.

**The Knapp's Relational Stages**

The film 'lost in translation' demonstrates how Bob and Charlotte began their relationship and how they progressed until the relationship ended. Their relationship journey is closely linked to Knapp's five relational stages, which include; initiation, experimentation, intensifying, integration, and bonding. Their first meeting takes place at a bar, where they show up and begin talking to each other. The journey continued until their bond became very strong, making it impossible for them to stay away from one another.

**References**

Coppola, S., Faris, A., Hayashi, F., Johansson, S., Murray, B., & Ribisi, G. (2003). Lost In Translation (Movie 2003).