Team development & Productive Team Meetings

CS2101 Effective Communication for Computing Professionals



Recap:

What was your key takeaway from the session on

Strategic Presentations?

Activity 1: What makes a good team?

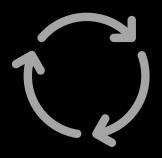
• What were the best teams you worked in?

• Why were they good?



Activity 2:

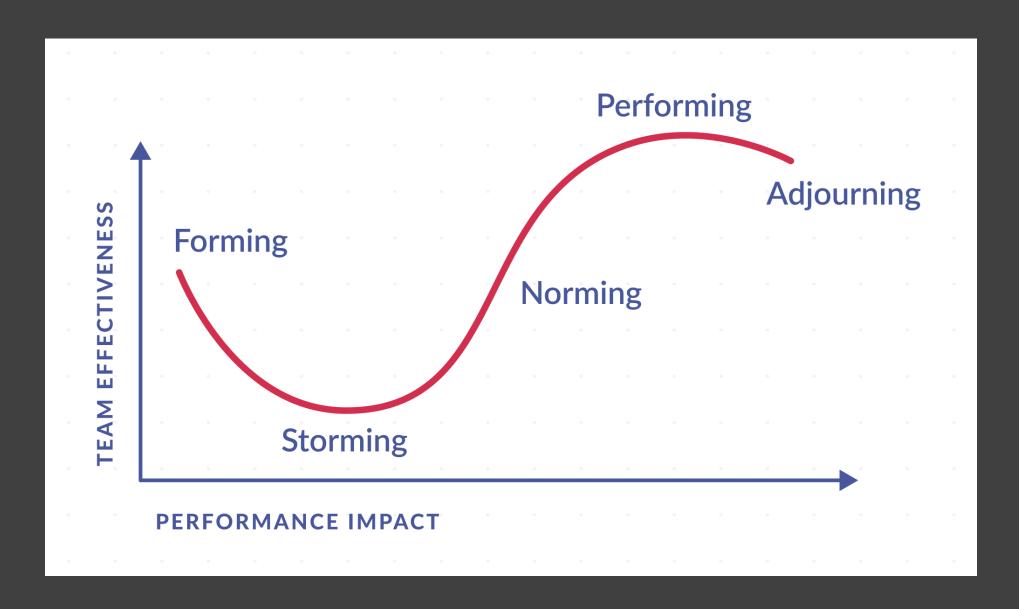




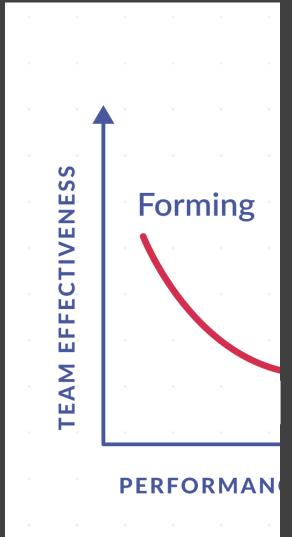
Can teams function well right from the start?

What do you think are the stages of team development?

Tuckman's stages of Team development

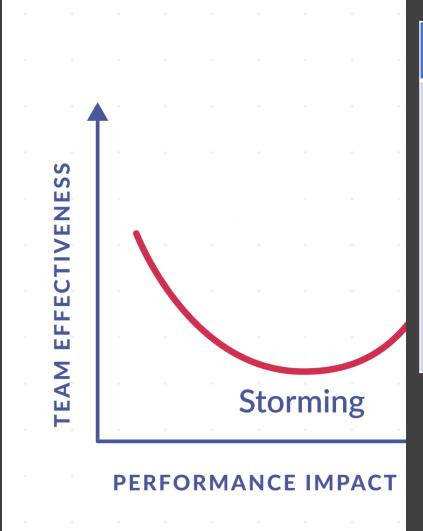


Stage 1: Forming



Characteristics	Actions
ExcitementAnticipationAnxietyOptimism	 Clarify project and establish team objectives Clarify each team members' role in contributing to team and project objectives Build trust and rapport with team members

Stage 2: Storming



Characteristics	Actions
 Reality sets in Adjustment anxiety Differing views, ideas, expectations Communication gaps Frustrations/ Conflicts 	 Establish clear processes and structures workflow, expectations, how to do things, how to handle conflict Build trust and rapport between team members e.g. have coffee/ lunch together Resolve conflicts swiftly if they occur. Provide support for less secure team members. Learn about each other's workstyles and strengths.

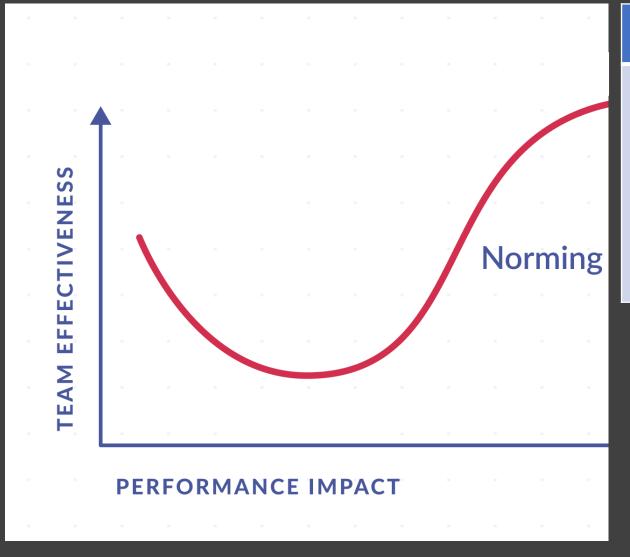
Clarify your style and expectations of how others should respond to you

A Work Style Table

In this example, a manager provided this table to her team so they could understand her communication style and expectations.

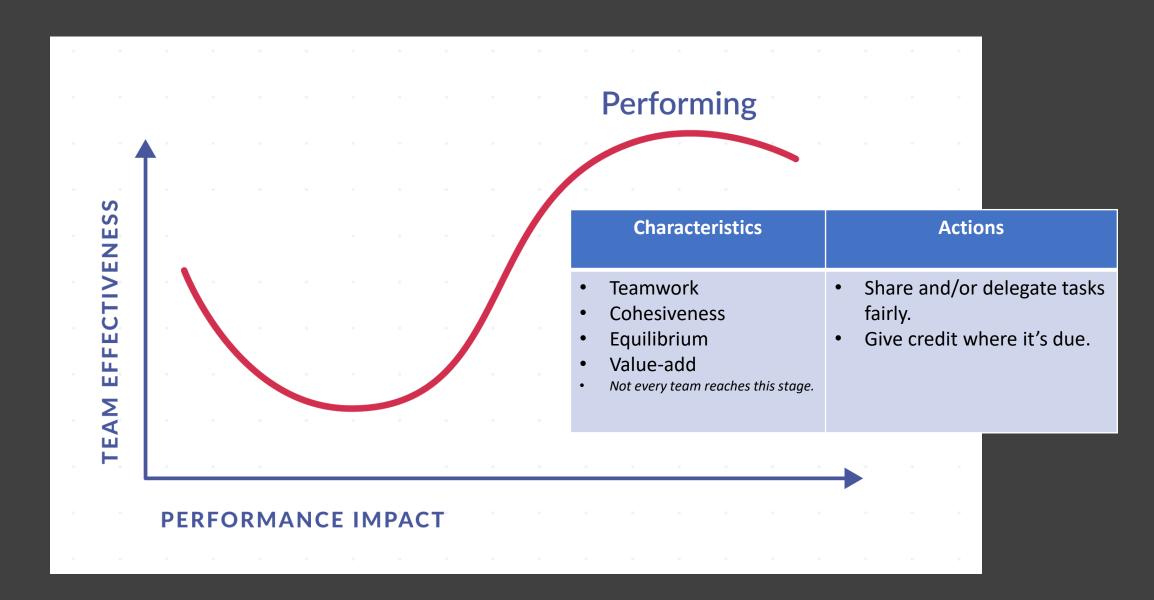
MY WORK STYLE	HOW TO RESPOND TO MY STYLE	
I try to understand something deeply by asking a lot of probing questions.	Engage and debate with me to formulate the best solution.	
I raise tough issues up front and directly.	If you feel my response is blunt or direct, realize that it's about the issue, not about you personally.	
I joke with people I know well.	Let me know if my joking with you or someone else makes you uncomfortable or feels inappropriate in any way.	
I tend to look for the problems to fix first.	This doesn't mean I don't appreciate the good work you do. Ask me how you're doing if you're worried about the number of "bugs" I found in your last document.	
I take an optimistic view.	Don't just tell me why something won't work; also share ideas for how it might.	
I try to communicate regularly and transparently.	Give me the pulse of the team, and be sure to share my messages to you with your teams.	
I can appear grouchy because I often have a serious expression on my face or provide terse responses at times.	If I seem grumpy in a conversation or meeting with you, don't assume the problem is you; discuss it with me.	
I'm not a morning person.	Avoid scheduling meetings where I have to make a big decision before 10 AM.	
SOURCE SABINA NAWAZ	© HBR.ORG	

Stage 3: Norming

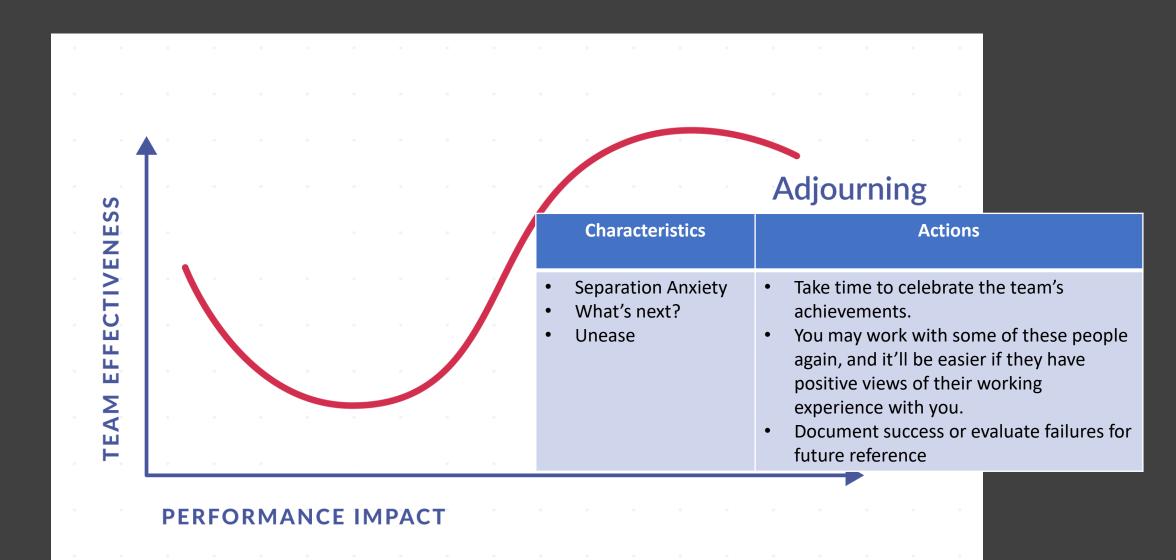


Characteristics	Actions
Shared GoalsTrade-offsAcceptanceTeam Cohesion	 Step back and help team members take responsibility for progress towards the goal. Arrange a team-building event.

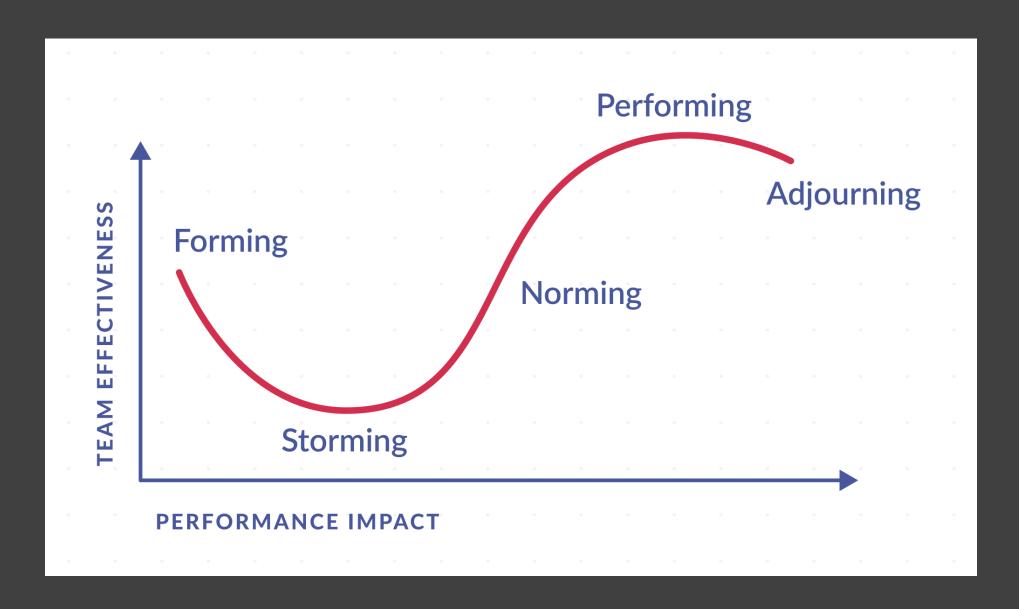
Stage 4: Performing



Tuckman's stages of Team development



Tuckman's stages of Team development



Activity 3: Reflection

Think about:

- Your working style
- Your commitment to the CS2103T/CS2113T project and OP1 project
- How you intend to contribute

Clarify your style and expectations of how others should respond to you

A Work Style Table

In this example, a manager provided this table to her team so they could understand her communication style and expectations.

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SOURCE SABINA NAWAZ	© HBR.ORG	



Activity 4: Project Team Forming & Norming

In your <u>project groups</u>, please share:

- Your working style
- Your commitment to the group and project
- How you hope to contribute
- Any concerns you have

Activity 5: OP1 Team Forming & Norming

In your OP1 groups, please share:

- Your working style
- Your commitment to the group and project
- How you hope to contribute
- Any concerns you have

Research shows

60% of teams fail to reach their potential because:

- Lack of clear purpose and goals
- Unclear roles
- Lack of accountability
- Lack of effective or shared leadership
- Lack of trust among team members
- Inability to deal with conflict
- Ineffective problem-solving skills
- Lack of focus on creativity and excellence

Activity 6: Team Forming & Norming

Let's discuss some:

Team communication scenarios

Please go to our shared CS2101 folder:

 \rightarrow Week 3 \rightarrow 3.1 Activity space \rightarrow Activity 6

Team Building

- 1. Clarify company or team's mission and have a goal as a team.
- 2. Know your role and how your role contributes to the team's success.
- 3. Establish decision-making rules
 - e.g. voting, appoint leader to break impasse, when to escalate to higher authority / seek 2nd opinion, etc.
- 4. Encourage openness and establish a safe environment
 - agree on fundamental principles like *no question/idea is a stupid idea*, or agree to a periodical progress report
 - share your work styles, level of commitment, plans to contribute; be mindful of cultural differences

5. Decide how you want to communicate

- e.g. online zoom meetings, face-to-face discussions, emails, texts or calls for urgent or less urgent items
- 6.Establish sharing space to update project
 - e.g. shared folder (e.g. Teams, Google docs) or online tools (e.g. Trello) to document information, progress and feedback.
 - note down decisions and make it available for all so there's no dispute later.
- 7.Set workflow, timeline, milestones.
 - E.g. begin with the end-goal/ task and work backwards to identify the milestones and timeline needed
 - identify when and how often to have meetings

We have discussed:

- the 5 stages ofTeam Development
- a conducive environment for productive teamwork

We will now focus on:

- Team meetings
- how to effectively prepare for, lead and participate in team meetings

Team Meetings

Think about it:

What makes a meeting good or bad?

The Economic Impact of Bad Meetings

IS CLEARING YOUR SCHEDULE BETTER FOR BUSINESS?

TED speakers David Grady and Jason Fried want to take meetings to task—and for good reason. Recent data shows that meetings can cost companies valuable time and money. From inefficiency to unseemly costs, are meetings really benefiting your organization?



"We have a global problem with meetings."

Do we really need a meeting?

Schedule a meeting only if you answer yes to all five of the following questions:

Λ



Can you specify the purpose and goal of the meeting?

Don't schedule a meeting until you know why you want to have it.

2



Do you need to collaborate with others, not just delegate and inform?

If you need to delegate or inform, an email will do.

3



Do you need to collaborate with more than one colleague?

If not, a quick one-on-one, in person or through email, should do the trick.

4



Do your colleagues need to speak with each other?

If so, a meeting will work better than the world's longest email chain. 4



Do you have the info and supplies you need to hold an effective meeting?

What info, if any, do you need to gather before you host a meeting?

Once you know you should have a meeting, review these points to make sure it's a success.





Check your invitation list to see whom you can remove.

Make sure to do this before sending invitations.

2



State your goals for the meeting to the people you invite.

Put this in the meeting invitation.

3



Use those goals to create an agenda for the meeting.

Again, structure keeps the meeting from going off track.

4



Create action items for attendees.

If you need specific info or feedback, now is the time to say so.

5



Can you specify the purpose and goal of the meeting?

Don't schedule a meeting until you know why you want to have it.

Duties of the Meeting Coordinator

Before the meeting

- Plan
 - ✓ Why and what?
 - √Who?
 - ✓ When and where?
- Inform
 - ✓ Notice of meeting
 - ✓ Meeting Agenda

During the meeting

- Maintain structure and control
- Keep group focussed
- Facilitate discussion
- Summarize decisions
- Ensure minutes are taken

Notify others:

Notice of meeting

Inform members of the meeting

- Date
- Time
- Place
- Purpose

Meeting Agenda

List

- Items for discussion
 - Action Items
 - Order of items
- Time schedule (optional)

Functions of the Agenda

- Helps participants prepare for the meeting so they can contribute efficiently and meaningfully
 - (e.g. necessary information/statistics, charts, ideas, reports)
- Provides structure
 - Focuses the meeting discussions
 - Keeps the meeting on time
 - Guide for writing the meeting notes/ minutes



Basic Sample

Meeting Agenda

Topic 1: Title of First Topic

- · Discussion point list with bullets
- · Second talking point
- · Third talking point

Topic 2: Title of Second Topic

- 1. Discussion point list with numbers
- 2. Second talking point
- 3. Third talking point

Topic 3: Title of Third Topic

- A. Discussion point list with letters
- B. Second talking point
- C. Third talking point

Topic 4: Title of Fourth Topic

- I. Discussion point with roman numerals
- II. Second talking point
- III. Third talking point

Notes and Action Items

Meeting Agenda

Meeting purpose:

For the content marketing team to develop our content strategy action plan for Q4 2019 and Q1 2020.

Before the meeting:

All participants must review the Keyword Analysis and Q2 & Q3 Content Performance reports (attached to invite) prior to the meeting.

Agenda:

- Q2 and Q3 performance discussion (10 minutes)
- Review topics requested by the sales team (10 minutes)
- Content gap analysis (15 minutes)
- Content brainstorm (15 minutes)
- General Q&A (5 minutes)
- Recap of to-dos and action items (5 minutes)

Outcomes:

- Team alignment on content priorities for Q4 2019 and Q1 2020
- Ideas from other departments vetted and refined for inclusion
- Content director able to finish building content strategy for review by team



Marketing planning meeting

Date: September 2, 2021

Time: 15:00 - 16:00

Attendees: @Antoine, @Juan, @Fiona (@Marketing team)

Meeting objective

Develop our content marketing strategy for the next year.

Agenda

Before the meeting: Please review last year's

 Content performance report.xlsx.

- Review last year's performance (15 min; @Marketing team)
- Share topics requested by the sales team (10 min; @Antoine)
- Present latest competitor content gap analysis (15 min; @Juan)
- Get feedback on the new content plan proposal (15 min; @Fiona)

Sample 4

Name of Company/Dept.

Staff Meeting

Requested Attendees					
Name 1	Name 2	Name 3	Name 4		
Name 5	Name 6	Name 7	Name 8		

1:00 pm Welcome/News/Announcements

1:05 pm Recognition

1:10 pm Administrative/Finance Updates

1:15 pm Review of Previous Action Items

1:20 pm Project Updates

1:30 pm Discussion or Topic 1

1:45 pm Discussion or Topic 2

2:00 pm Round Table

2:15 pm Review of New Assignments/Travel Plans

2:20 pm Adjourn

New Action Items

- Action Item 1
- Action Item 2

Notes

Duties of Participants

Before the meeting

Receive notice of meeting

Prepare carefully

- ✓ Study the Agenda
- ✓ Anticipate and prepare your case
- ✓ List questions

During the meeting

Contribute positively

- Speak up
- Follow agenda

Listen actively

- Maintain eye contact
- Welcome contributions

After the meeting

Disseminate the minutes

- Items discussed
- Decisions made
- Who is in charge/to take action
- When to deliver

Act promptly

During the meeting

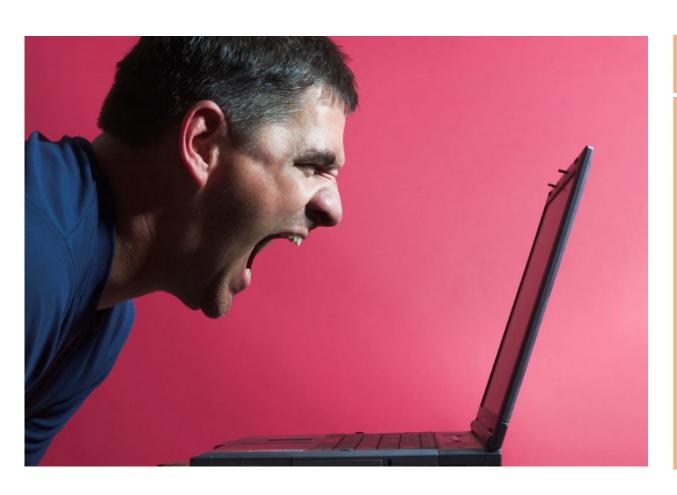
Task facilitating behaviours

- □ **Initiate** discussion
- ☐ Give and seek information/opinions
- □ Coordinate: show relationships between ideas, clarify issues, summarise discussions
- □ **Set/ suggest procedures** to achieve goals

During the meeting

Task facilitating behaviours	Group maintenance behaviours
□ Initiate discussion □ Give and seek	□ Encourage verbally or non- verbally (e.g. praise, nodding, smiling)
 information/opinions □ Coordinate: show relationships between ideas, clarify issues, summarise discussions 	□ Harmonize – resolve differences/ conflicts through mediation or even humour
□ Set/ suggest procedures to achieve goals	□ Compromise- agree to mutually acceptable decision

Don't



Self-oriented behaviours

- □ Control
- Withdraw
- □ Seek attention
- □ Divert
- □ Exclude
- □ Belittle
- □ Block

Duties of Participants

Before the meeting

Receive notice of meeting

Prepare carefully

- ✓ Study the Agenda
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During the meeting



- Speak up
- Follow agenda

Listen actively

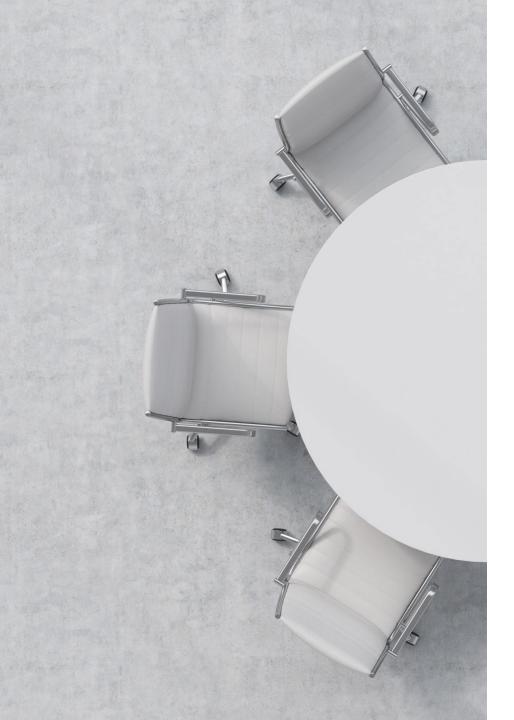
- Maintain eye contact
- Welcome contributions



Disseminate the minutes

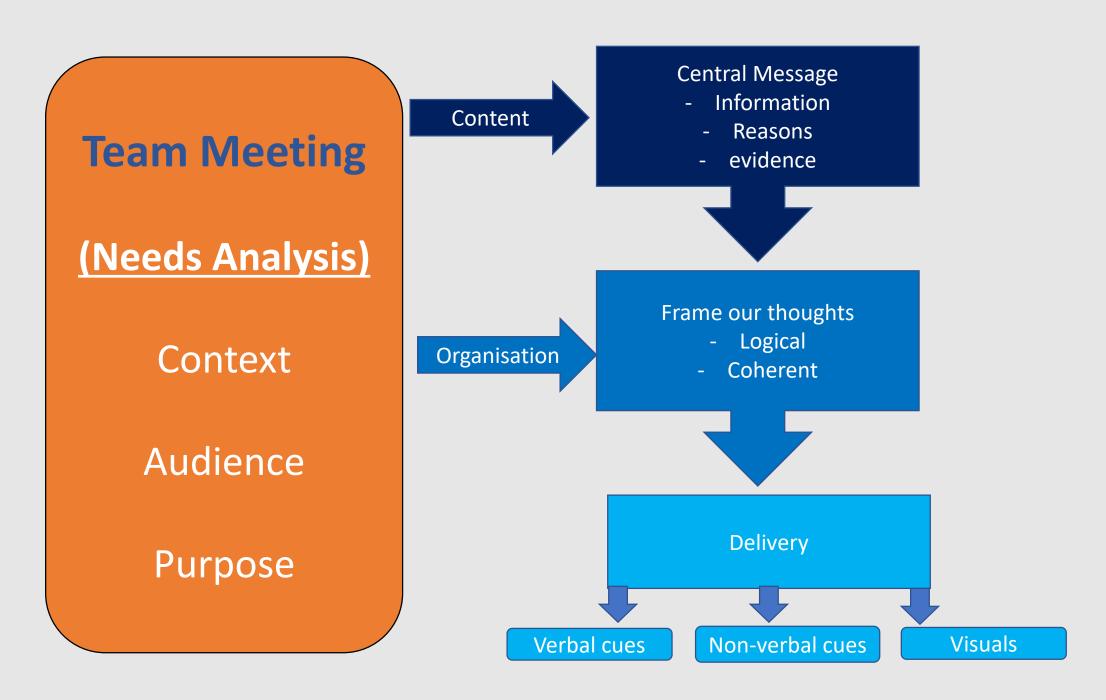
- Items discussed
- Decisions made
- Who is in charge/to take action
- When to deliver

Act promptly



OP1 Team Meeting Assessment (10%)

- You will be having a meeting regarding OP1.
- Before the Team Meeting, discuss and share the agenda with your members and your tutor
- Do keep meeting notes
- Complete the reflections on the Team meeting on the Forum
- Refer to CA1 Team meeting Info Pack



CA1 Team Meeting Rubrics

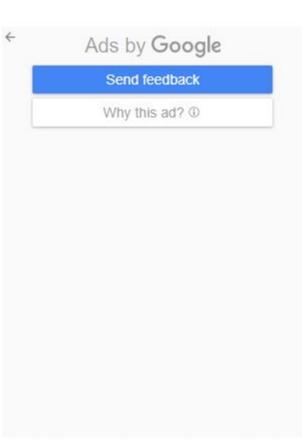
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Jeff Bezos: This is the 'smartest thing we ever did' at Amazon

Published Mon, Oct 14 2019 • 11:37 AM EDT • Updated Tue, Oct 15 2019 • 11:00 AM EDT



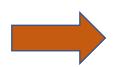




Jeff Bezos has a nontraditional management style at Amazon, and he says Amazon's unique twist on meeting structure is the "smartest thing we ever did."

"Many, many years ago, we outlawed PowerPoint presentations at Amazon," Bezos said at the Bush Center's Forum on Leadership in 2018. "And it's probably the smartest thing we ever did."

To replace the PowerPoint presentations, Bezos created a new way to hold meetings: Meetings start with each attendee sitting and silently reading a "six-page, narratively-structured memo" for about the first 30 minutes of the meeting.



"[The memo is] supposed to create the context for what will then be a good discussion," Bezos said.

Interaction Skills 30% Participant listens actively, engages extremely well in the discussion, and displays excellent task facilitating behaviours		Participant practices	Participant is frequently	Participant is not
by initiating discussions, giving and seeking information and opinions, coordinating — showing relationships among ideas, clarifying issues and/or summarising discussions. Participant displays excellent group maintenance behaviours by encouraging, harmonizing, and compromising effectively to arrive at a fair decision. Participant establishes and maintains a friendly and professional rapport with others.	discussion, and displays some task facilitating behaviours such as giving and seeking of information and opinions, and clarifying issues as, clarifying dorning seas, clarifying liss. It displays participant displays some group maintenance behaviours by encouraging, ing, and ising y to arrive at a on. It establishes tains a friendly ssional ith others. discussion, and displays some task facilitating behaviours such as giving and seeking of information and opinions, and clarifying issues Participant displays some group maintenance behaviours by encouraging, harmonizing, and compromising appropriately to arrive at a fair decision. Participant has some engagement and rapport throughout the discussion.	some active listening, is somewhat engaged during the discussion and displays some task facilitating behaviours such as giving and seeking of information and opinions, and clarifying issues Participant displays some group maintenance behaviours by encouraging, harmonizing, and compromising appropriately but does not arrive at a fair decision. Participant has limited engagement and rapport throughout the discussion.	unengaged during the discussion and displays self-oriented behaviours such as controlling, withdrawing, seeking attention, diverting, excluding, belittling, blocking). There is little attempt at task facilitating behaviours such as giving and seeking of information and opinions. Participant displays little group maintenance behaviours by encouraging, harmonizing and compromising to arrive at a fair decision. Participants is generally disengaged or unable to establish rapport with others and speaks only when invited to or	engaged throughout the discussion and displays self-oriented behaviours such as controlling, withdrawing, seeking attention, diverting, excluding, belittling, blocking). There is no attempt at task facilitating behaviours such as giving and seeking of information and opinions. Participant does not display group maintenance behaviours by encouraging, harmonizing and compromising to arrive at a fair decision. Participants is disengaged or unable to establish rapport with others and speaks only when invited to or

Body Language 10%	Non-verbal cues are used extremely well to show openness and engagement (e.g., eye contact, body language, facial expressions)
	The cues are always used meaningfully to persuade and engage other participants (e.g., facial expressions, eye contact, posture, gestures) throughout the meeting.
	Non-verbal cues always complement and enhance the speaker's delivery.

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Language & Delivery 30% The speaker is always fluent, and does not seaker is generally and does not fluent, and may fluent fluent.	I
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Refer to

CA1 Team Meeting Schedule

on our shared document

Final Activity: OP1 Team Discussion - Agenda

CHOOSING THE BEST PLATFORM There are so many tools out there to choose from! Jump into this flowchart to find the right platform to fit your needs and your budget.



