

M5D1: Video Scavenger Hunt

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COM125: Interpersonal Communication

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Abstract

Overview

Throughout the course, you have watched clips from movies that illustrate examples of interpersonal communication.

Now it's your turn to find video clips that show the types of challenges you have been working on during this class!

You should spend approximately 4 hours on this assignment.

M5D1: Video Scavenger Hunt**Initial Post****Instructions**

1. Select three (3) interpersonal communications skills that you worked to improve during this course. Two of the three interpersonal communication skills may comprise the ones you practiced and added to the Word document each week. At least one should be a skill you feel did not improve, or feel you improved less than the others.
2. Search the internet for video clips (2–5 minutes long) illustrating those three skills.
3. In your written post, list the three skills you selected. For each video clip, describe the interaction that is taking place in the video clip and identify the interpersonal communication skills that are demonstrated. Explain how the people in the clip were using the skills, and identify what you can learn from them that might help you work on those skills in the future.
4. Include links to the video clips in your post. Refrain from using any video clips that were previously used in the course.

Skills I Have Improved On

Skill One: Grasping Psychological Context

Grasping psychological context was originally something at sort of a higher level of difficulty for me than many other ideas within the realm of “*interpersonal communication*”. More recently, I have done my best to get a thorough read of the environmental aspects in addition to the “aura” — for lack of a better term — of the room prior to saying whatever was initially on my mind prior to entering the conversation.

Video Illustrating Skill 1

What follows is a video link illustrating *an understanding of psychological context*.

[Adventure Time: Ocean of Fear](#).

In the previously mentioned video clip, we have two subjects: Finn (the human) and Jake (the dog) of Adventure Time. In the clip, we can see how well Jake does at managing the stress of his friend Finn with conquering his fear of the ocean (Leichliter, [2017](#), 00:00:30–00:01:00).

Skill Two: Empathy

Empathy is one of the most important aspects, in this author’s opinion, in regards to interpersonal communication. Empathy, to me, provides the deepest expression of understanding available to the other individuals involved in the conversation as the emulation of emotions shows that you are feeling the same pain as the speaker is when discussing a situation with them.

Video Illustration of Empathy

What follows is a video link illustrating *Empathy*.

[Adventure Time: Normal Face](#).

In the previous scene, we see Jake taking the funeral of a peer with an incredibly complex character development and strange relationship to our main characters. Finn illustrates empathy when he enters the supply closet in an attempt to cheer up his friend Jake.

Here, Finn was able to maintain his “normal face” without crying until he empathized with Jake to the extent of losing his grip on his own emotions when seeing Jake cry (Leichliter, [2015](#)).

The One I am Still Working On

Listening with The Intent to Understand, Not Reply

Listening with the intent to understand, rather than with the intent to respond, is an incredibly important skill I had felt I lacked in my interpersonal communication skill chest for a significant part of my adolescent and adult life. Before I was conscience of this fact, I would immediately relate what someone was telling me is happening in their life to myself or how my experience could help them understand or get through their own. Unfortunately, I still have this habit (as do my peers I shared this assignment with who also feel this skill is *incredibly* difficult to master).

Video Illustrating Skill 3

What follows is a video link illustrating *listening with the intent to understand, rather than with the intent to respond*.

[Adventure Time: Burning Low](#).

In the previous scene we see Finn speaking with Princess Bubblegum about her concerns with him dating another princess on the planet, named Flame Princess. Finn did not listen well enough to understand that it is not that Princess Bubblegum is romantically interested in him being the reason he cannot see her, but rather that “love” would cause some sort of reaction too dangerous for them to handle (Leichliter, [2018](#), 00:01:02–00:01:57).

Responses

Response 1

The first thing I've begun to work on in my communication is clarity in speech. In this movie clip it shows Ace Ventura speaking very quickly while keeping his speech clear. It shows multiple scenes where he takes a deep breath and quickly answers their questions fully while not stuttering or making a mistake. He stays confident in his tone. One thing I can learn from this is to remember to take a deep breath. This helps you to stay calm so that you can stay clear in your speech.

Another thing I have been working on is managing emotions in speech. In this video clip Peter goes through a couple of things that for a lot of people would have caused an emotional outbreak. For one, he was talked to by both bosses when neither of them seemed to listen to him, and another coworker was playing the radio which seemed to annoy Peter. With all of these things, Peter could have reacted with anger or frustration. Instead, he stayed calm and moved on. He didn't allow the things to bother him too much and moved on which is something I could learn to do.

The final thing I could have worked more on was nonverbal communication skills. This was something I didn't focus enough on. In the first scene of this clip, Lucy struggles with her nonverbal communication skills but after each try gets a little better. She's working on her facial expressions and by smiling is able to conceal her emotions a little. Something I learned from this is it can be difficult sometimes, but it helps to try and smile through it.

This is a response to Julayne Kilcullen on Post ID 43614390. Amazing response to the discussion prompt, Julayne! It is unfortunate that we did not get a chance to get to know each other (even a little, I do not even recall us reading each other's respective discussion posts)! I see you had mentioned that you did not necessarily work on *nonverbal communication skills* as much as many other interpersonal communication skills we had

discussed throughout the course. It is hard to compare your ability to that of Lucy's right now, considering the state of the pandemic we are suffering though right now!

You mentioned that that smiling through a tough time was a good way to conceal one's own emotions when in conversation with his/her/their peers, but what about like now — during the Coronavirus COVID-19 Pandemic? It is no longer possible to smile though something to get the idea across to others that everything is “okay”, with the usage of masks (finally) rising in public places. The *eyes* have become even more important than ever, would you agree?

Response 2

The interpersonal communication skills that will be discussed are delivery, listening, nonverbal communication and negotiation. I listed delivery and listening as my skills to improve upon, and I have improved slightly with delivery and improved more with listening. My nonverbal communication is horrible, and my negotiation skills are slightly better.

Jack from state Farm commercials are hilarious because things are never what they seem. The woman is not listening to her husband when he says who he is talking to on the telephone. Her husband is standing in the middle of the darkly lit living room wearing pajamas with his arms folded in front of him. The wife doesn't believe her husband because he is whispering or talking lowly, and it's 3 a.m. She then asks the person on the telephone questions to validate what her husband says. Her husband doesn't get upset when his wife snatches the telephone away from him to talk to the person on the telephone. The husband uses conflict resolution to answer the wife's questions quickly, low tone, and non-threatening manner. There's no question I would react the same as the woman would except, I would probably throw a pillow or two, nonverbal communication and body language, at him while questioning him (State Farm Insurance, 2020).

This is a response to Diata Hart on Post ID 43613107. Loved the video that you had brought up during this final week's discussion on interpersonal communication, Diata! I fondly remember those commercials back in the day on cable television. It is easy to misconstrue a conversation when you only hear one side, would you not agree? Not that the woman in question's husband made it any easier on himself by using oddly "secretive" conversational tactics when on the phone with an insurance provider. . . Granted, I would be secretive too if calling State Farm, as that would mean an automobile accident recently occurred, would it not?

References

- Leichliter, L. (2015, September 25). *Adventure time: Normal face*. Retrieved December 7, 2020, from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AuD_VzYku78
- Leichliter, L. (2017, March 30). *Adventure time: Ocean of fear*. Retrieved December 7, 2020, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cSSB4qPrfOg>
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Additional References

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