

Class Activity - Design a Communications System

# Objectives

Explain the role of protocols and standards organizations in facilitating interoperability in network communications.

# Background / Scenario

You have just purchased a new automobile for your personal use. After driving the car for a week or so, you find that it is not working correctly. Discussing the problem with several of your peers, you decide to take it to an automotive repair facility that they highly recommend. It is the only repair facility located in close proximity.

When you arrive at the repair facility, you find that all the mechanics speak another language. You are having difficulty explaining the automobile’s performance problems, but the repairs really need to be done. You are not sure you can drive it back home to research other options.

You must find a way to work with the repair facility to ensure your automobile is fixed correctly.

How will you communicate with the mechanics? Design a communications model to ensure that the car is properly repaired.

# Reflection Question

What steps did you identify as important to communicating your repair request? Justify your answer.

***Type your answers here.***

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What steps did you identify as important to communicating your repair request? Justify your answer.

* **Finding a way to bridge the language barrier**: This is crucial for effective communication and understanding. Using a translator, translation apps, visual aids, and simple language all play a vital role in overcoming language barriers.
* **Clear and concise communication**: Avoiding technical jargon and using simple, direct language ensures that the mechanic understands the problem accurately.
* **Confirming understanding**: Regularly asking the mechanic to confirm their understanding helps to avoid misunderstandings and ensures that everyone is on the same page.
* **Using visual aids**: Demonstrating the problem and using diagrams or pictures can significantly improve communication, especially when dealing with technical issues.

Relating to Network Communications:

This scenario highlights the importance of protocols and standards in network communication. Just as a common language and communication methods are essential for effective car repair, protocols and standards ensure that different devices and systems can understand and communicate with each other across a network.

* Protocols: Define the rules and formats for data exchange, ensuring that data is transmitted and received correctly.
* Standards Organizations: Develop and maintain these protocols, ensuring interoperability between different devices and systems from various manufacturers.

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