

Chapter 2 Lesson 14

How to Speak So That People Want to Listen

-Julian Treasure



Content:







- Fill in the Blanks 6'
- Retell 7'
- Imitation 5'
- Language Points 4'

Teaching and Learning Goals:

- listen to the material for 2 times
- retell the speech
- imitate the intonation (语调)
- get the main idea



Scan the questions first. Then listen to the audio and fill in the blanks below.

- 
1. Speaking ____ of somebody who's not present. 
 2. ...it's very hard to listen to somebody if you know that you're being ____ and found wanting at the same time. 
 3. It's hard to listen when somebody's that _____. 
 4. We complain about the weather, about sport, about _____, about everything... 
 5. They just pass it on to everybody else and don't take _____ for their actions. 

Tutor: Please let the student scan the questions and do the exercises. Listen to it again if the student cannot get the answer for the first time. The keys are on the next page.



Check your answers.

1. **ill**
2. **judged**
3. **negative**
4. **politics**
5. **responsibility**

Tutor: Please check the answers with the student.



Fill in the Blanks
6 mins

Retell
7 mins

Imitation
5 mins

Language Points
4 mins

After class

Listen to the audio again, make notes,
and retell the speech in your own words.

Part 1

What are the first two bad habits?

Part 2

What is the third bad habit?

Hints:

move away from
gossip/later/us
judging/hard/listen to

negativity/fall into
complaining/national art/weather/
sport/politics/viral misery/not lightness
excuses/pass on to/don't take
responsibility/



Tutor: Please let the student retell twice (retell – feedback – retell), and correct his/her mistakes.



Listen and read each sentence, imitating the intonation.

- 1. Speaking ill of somebody who's not present.
Speaking 'ill of somebody who's no present.
- 2. It's hard to listen when somebody's that negative.
It's 'har to listen when somebody's tha negative.
- 3. It's not spreading sunshine and lightness in the world.
It's 'no spreading sunshine an lightness in the world.

Tutor: Please help the student to imitate the speech with appropriate intonation.



Learn the words and expressions.

- We complain about the weather, about sport, about politics, about everything, but actually, complaining is **viral misery**.
- Some people have a **blamethrower**. They just pass it on to everybody else and don't take responsibility for their actions...

viral: spreading quickly and widely
e.g. Within days the film clip went viral.

misery: a person who is habitually depressed
e.g. He is such a misery that he even makes me feel unhappy.

blamethrower: people who don't take responsibilities
e.g. I don't want to be a blamethrower, so I'm going to solve this problem.

Tutor: Please teach the words and phrases shortly. Let the student make sentences. Keep it in 4 mins.

Fill in the Blanks
6 mins

Retell
7 mins

Imitation
5 mins

Language Points
4 mins

After class



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Full Text

What I'd like to suggest, there are a number of habits that we need to move away from.

First, gossip. Speaking ill of somebody who's not present. Not a nice habit, and we know perfectly well the person gossiping, five minutes later, will be gossiping about us.

Second, judging. We know people who are like this in conversation, and it's very hard to listen to somebody if you know that you're being judged and found wanting at the same time.

Third, negativity. You can fall into this. My mother, in the last years of her life, became very negative, and it's hard to listen. I remember one day, I said to her, "It's October 1 today," and she said, "I know, isn't it dreadful?" It's hard to listen when somebody's that negative.

And another form of negativity, complaining. Well, this is the national art of the U.K. It's our national sport. We complain about the weather, about sport, about politics, about everything, but actually, complaining is viral misery. It's not spreading sunshine and lightness in the world.

Excuses. We've all met this guy. Maybe we've all been this guy. Some people have a blamethrower. They just pass it on to everybody else and don't take responsibility for their actions, and again, hard to listen to somebody who is being like that.

Click the squares to
read and listen to
more materials.

**Script
of the whole
speech**

**Audio track
of the whole
speech**



How to Speak So That People Want to Listen

Bye!

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