

## **What are some barriers to effective speaking?**

The barriers to effective speaking skills are:

### *1. Physical and physiological barriers*

These include distance, background noise, poor or malfunctioning equipment, bad hearing, poor eyesight, speech impediments.

### *2. Emotional and cultural noise*

Emotions (anger, fear, sadness) and attitudes (having to be right all the time, believing oneself to be superior or inferior to others) affect objectivity, as do the stereotypical assumptions that people make about each other based on cultural background.

### *3. Language*

- a) Speaking different languages in the society, these can hamper the speaking skills,
- b) having strong accents,
- c) using slang or jargon can frustrate communication and negotiation efforts.

### *4. Nothing or little in common*

Giving examples stories and personal experiences can help explain a point, but if the audience cannot relate to any of the stories because they don't share a common experience with the speaker, it can be a barrier to communication via speech.

### *5. Lack of eye contact*

Many people do not make eye contact during speaking. This is a sure way of raising doubt in listeners' minds and leads to loss of attention and making them feel suspicious of the speaker.

### *6. Information overload and lack of focus*

Too much information can confuse the audience and even make them wonder if you're giving them too much information.

### *7. Not being prepared, lack of credibility*

If speaker is not prepared, if speaker lacks the facts, if speaker only depends on Power Point presentation too much, the listeners will notice and feel let down.

### *8. Talking too much*

When the speaker is talking, he is not listening and this can lead to missing a lot of feedback, and thus the speaker needs to listen to the audience.

### *9. Trying too hard to impress, seeming desperate*

When speaker tries too hard to impress the audience, speaker may seem desperate, and desperation smells like manipulation and turns people off.

### *10. Lack of enthusiasm*

If the speaker doesn't believe in what s/he is speaking about, the audience won't believe in it either. This leads to a barrier in the communication via speaking.

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Some of the barriers to speaking in public are:

**1: lack of vocabularies that will help your flow**, a lot of people want to speak in public but lack the repertoire of words. Speaker must develop a reading habit that should help in having a number of words.

**2: lack of self confidence.** This is a great hindrance to a number of people. If speaker doesn't believe in what and who the speaker is, no one will believe in him/her and ultimately, speaker would not want to face a crowd.

**3. Ability or a good knowledge if the language of Communication.** If speaker wants to be an English public speaker, s/he must have a very high grip of the English language. Grammar, diction and Elocution, i.e. the way the words are pronounced within the language.

**4. A good voice.** This is one instrument that speaker must have naturally, or can cultivate through constant practice. There are many techniques of elocution and speaking that one can work on ; these techniques can aid in enhancing the voice.