

Text C

How Men and Women Communicate Differently



It's midday during a long drive. John's sitting at the wheel. Mary's reading, glancing up now and then at the passing scenery. Suddenly, she turns to him and cries, "Talk to me!"

She's not stir-crazy; he's not ignoring her. They're just living the classic divide in communication between men and women. She's more discussion-oriented and he's all action.

5 One reason for these differences stems from the way relationships develop during childhood.

Girls' friendships often focus on making connections. Talk is essential to this process: sharing secrets, relating experiences, revealing problems and discussing. Boys generally take another approach to friendship. Their buddy groups tend to be larger, focusing on activities rather than conversation.

10 This differentiation in youth leads to dissimilar communication styles in adulthood.

Women communicate through dialogue. Males remain action-oriented. Research indicates that these are the general tendencies of men and women, but these divides are not absolute. There are certainly men who want to chat about their feelings, and women who quickly tire of discourse.

15 Non-verbal communication involves varying levels of body expression. Women tend to express themselves more using their hand gestures and facial expressions. Men are more conservative in facial movement and body contact; however, they do tend to be unreserved in sitting styles: sprawling and stretching. Women tend to draw in, keeping arms and legs close to their bodies.

20 Non-verbal communication for women often focuses on maintaining the relationship, whereas for men, it primarily centers on the task.

Adapted from "10 Ways Men and Women Communicate Differently" by psychotherapist Susan Sherwood, PhD

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Choose the correct answer from A, B, C or D. Write the letter in the box provided.

20. According to the article, one of the reasons for the differences in communication between men and women is that...

- A. there is no communication between them.
- B. women like arguing more than men.
- C. its origin lies in the early stages of life.
- D. women get angry when ignored by men.

21. Between lines 6 and 9, the author indicates that boys...

- A. have a different way of dealing with friendship.
- B. focus on private friendship groups.
- C. focus on activities as well as on conversation.
- D. have as profound relationships as girls.

The sentences below are either true or false. Tick [✓] the correct response then justify it with a relevant brief quotation from the text. Both a tick [✓] and a quotation are required for one mark.

True False

Example: There is a traditional view that the nature of communication between men and women differs.

Justification: ... the classic divide in communication between men and women

22. Some women get bored with talking.

Justification:

23. People tend to use similar numbers of gestures.

Justification:

24. Men's body language is usually dependent on the situation at hand.

Justification:



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Answer the following question.

25. Which word between **lines 15 and 19** is used to describe men's "sprawling and stretching"?

.....

Complete the following table by indicating to whom or to what the word/s underlined refer/s.

In the phrase...	the word/s...	refer/s to...
Example: <u>Their</u> buddy groups tend to... (line 8)	"their"boys
26. Talk to <u>me</u> (line 2)	"me"
27. <u>They're</u> just living... (line 3)	"they"
28. Talk is essential to <u>this process</u> ... (line 6)	"this process"
29. ...using <u>their</u> hand gestures... (line 16)	"their"



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