

A) Introduction:

Look at the pictures, what do they have in common?



B) VIDEO: TALK NERDY TO ME

1. Watch the video and answer the questions:

- What is the amazing world that Melissa wants to see?
- How is she trying to make this possible?

2. Watch again and complete the equation using these words. What do you think it means?

Equal (=) divide (/) multiply (x) subtract (-)

"take your science, 1. _____ your bullet points and your jargon, 2 _____ by relevance, meaning share what's relevant to the audience, and 3 _____ it by the passion that you have for this incredible work that you're doing, and that is going to _____ incredible interactions"

1. Work in pairs. Complete the sentences in your own words:

- The key to good communication is ...
- When you use gestures in another country, beware of ...
- Not speaking English well is a barrier to ...

Your own experience: talk about a professional who you thought was a good communicator.

D) Grammar: infinitive and -ing clauses

Examples:

*It's cheaper **to speak** to someone directly.
Speaking to someone directly is cheaper.*

Is there a difference in meaning between the sentences?

We can use verbs in two ways to describe how something is:

It + be + adjective + to + infinitive
It is easy to find our house

OR

Verb+ing + be + adjective
finding our house is easy

Rewrite these sentences using the alternative:

- Speaking in public is stressful
- It is always useful to hear different points of view
- Writing a good letter is hard
- Texting rather than phoning is lazy
- It was a bad idea to call him late at night

1. PRE READING.

Work in pairs. Use a private chat and discuss about two people (public figures, colleagues, famous people) that:

- You like listening to
- You don't like listening to.

Why we don't listen anymore

"Our vision is that, then years from now, our economy will be very different from the economy of today. We will build growth that lasts. We will have **reliable** transport so people can get to work without damaging their pockets or damaging the earth. We will have a fair society where every child, rich or poor, has opportunities; where each home, community and office looks after its environment. I know what I believe. I believe the country wants something different. Only our party can offer a difference and hope for the future"

How does this speech make you feel?

I wonder if you felt the same as me. It's a well-constructed speech (I know what I believe. I believe...). It's an **eloquent** speech (transport doesn't damage your pockets or damage the earth). It promises good things (growth that lasts). But in the end I feel nothing: I don't even know which party this leader belongs to. Why is that? Why is it that when many politicians and corporate leaders speak we simply **switch off**? They speak well; their arguments are well-constructed; they can **defend** these arguments. But they have failed to understand two basic lessons of communication.

The first is that eloquence is not the important thing. People enjoy hearing a good speaker, but they don't want to hear an actor. They want to hear someone real. They respect politicians who **speak from the heart**. Many corporate leaders make the same mistake. They believe using **jargon** will make them sound more business-like and authoritative. "Clearly there are some issues around schedules and budgets, but going forward we are confident of delivering a great product". We would respect them more if they simply said "the product is a bit late and over-budget, but it will be a good product".

The second reason is that their actions don't **match** their words. Your behavior is your most important tool in communication. So, if you say one thing and do another, people stop listening. They lose **trust** in you. An example of this is a government which promises to listen to people and then ignores what people tell them. The rule is: if you can't do it, don't say you can.

Vocabulary:

Study the highlighted words in the text and put them into the correct category. Then try to explain their meaning in your own words.

Adjective	Verb	Noun	Phrase

How can you explain the meaning of a word?

- Use it in a sentence
- Find a synonym

