

IMPORTANCE OF LISTENING

Listening leads to right speaking. In school, the students learn to listen as they learn to walk and talk. Listening is one of the four skills enable complete communication.

In fact, it is the first essential language skill because learning language usually begins when we learn to listen first, then to speak, then to read, and finally to write. Being the first language skill to learn it forms the basis for the other three skills, — speaking, reading and writing.

It is also important, as all the language skills are interdependent on each other.

Listening skills are important in family, at workplace and in society at large.

According to Dean Rustk (1909-1994) —

“Listening is one of the best ways to persuade others are with your ears - by listening to them”

Too many people fail to realize that real communication goes in both direction. Listening is the key to success. It helps to avoid communication errors.

• Good listening skills give scope for careers in communication, management, planning etc.

Listening has a social purpose of enjoyment. Poor listening skills can lead to misunderstanding and chaos. It can lead to not only time but loss of energy. Therefore, listening skills are important as they help to:-

1. Develop other language skills.
2. Improve communication by exchanging information between the speaker and the listener.
3. Build up new thinking channels and organize of thoughts.
4. Recall, recognize and retain the subject listened to.
5. Enhance emotional intelligence and self analysis.
6. Enrich vocabulary.
7. Improve interpersonal relations.
8. Predict what people are going to talk about.
9. Distinguish relevant and irrelevant points.
10. Recognize discourse markers - example - well, oh, etc.

11. Understand different intonation patterns, and uses of stress, which give clues to meaningful listening and social setting.
12. Understand inferred information example - Speaker's attitude or intention by reaching to a ~~conclusion~~ conclusion, decision.