

CLEAR THINKING TODAY

Communicating Hacks – Unit 4



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Objectives

- Lay the foundation for effectively communicating about a decision or perspective
- Present major communicative options after deciding or adopting a perspective
- Demonstrate how to pack and unpack core messages emerging from a decision or perspective









Agenda

- 1. Overview of Clear Thinking Hacks
- 2. Communicating Hacks
- 3. Discussion Questions



1. Overview of Clear Thinking

Developing Reflecting Deciding Thinking Hacks Communicating

2. Communicating Hacks



Video

- Identify and analyze your audiences
- Decide whether to share your PMQ chart
- Package your PMQ messages with graphics, metaphors, or catch phrases
- Don't be a cheerleader

Identify and analyze your audiences

TABLE 18.1 AUDIENCE ANALYSIS			
AUDIENCE	POTENTIAL RESPONSES (POSITIVE & NEGATIVE)		
Family	 Promote further discussion about posted material Appreciate my life experiences Feel more distant and separated 		
Friends	•Feel more part of my life •Nurture social competition or feelings of envy •Signal similarity of values		
(o-Workers	•Ignore posts •Nurture informal relationships •Expand circle of potential friends		

Decide whether to share your PMQ chart

Table 19.1 Strategic Communication Options				
Strategy →	Avoidance	Equivocation	Disclosure	
Tactics	Use silence Change subject Minimize contact with person	Use abstract language Invoke "politically correct" phrases Describe responses in vague terms	Share PMQ list Discuss reasoning process Debate points of view	
Possible Upside	You may Appear wise Avoid potential and unnecessary conflict Allow time for circumstances to change	You may Preserve relationships Remain uncommitted Allow time to build credibility Stall for more changes in circumstances	You may Create an understanding of your reasoning Build support Cultivate a foundation for your PMQ decisionmaking process Foster long-term buy-in	
Possible Downside	You may Create the illusion of support Appear uninvolved or uninterested	You may Mask important disagreements Delay important discussions	You may Foster unnecessary conflict Invest more time than with the other strategies	

Package your PMQ messages



- Graphics/logo
- Images
- Metaphors
- Stories





Don't be a cheerleader

"Keep the cheerleaders on the sidelines and focus on helping your audience understand what's going on in your decision-making game."

- Dr. So What

TABLE 21.1 HOW TO SUCCESSFULLY DOWNLOAD DECISIONS

Answer these Questions:

- 1. How was the decision made?
- 2. Why was the decision made?
- 3. What is the decision?
- 4. What other alternatives were considered?
- 5. How does the decision fit in with the mission and vision?
- 6. How does the decision affect the organization?
- (WIFO What's In it for the organization)
- 7. How does the decision affect employees?

(WIFM - What's In it for Me)



3. Discussion Questions



Case Studies

Downloading a Decision

Influencing Your Boss

- What type of packaging generally works best for you?
 Why?
- What are the characteristics or behaviors of people with whom you've avoided discussing certain topics? Why?
- What do you think is the most difficult part of conducting an effective audience analysis?



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