



BARRIERS TO EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION



1 SEMANTIC/LINGUISTIC

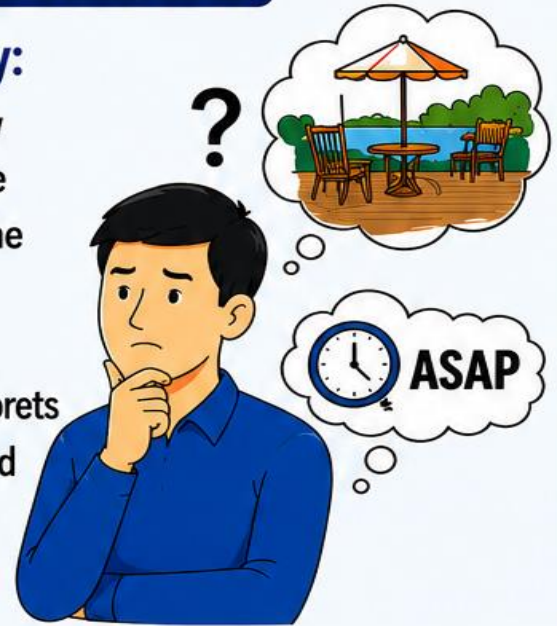
Problems arising from the language itself (words/symbols) leading to different interpretations.



EXAMPLE FOR PROBLEM-SOLVING

Jargon/Ambiguity:

A manager tells a new employee to finish the “decks” (slides) for the presentation ASAP (as soon as possible). The employee misinterprets “decks” as the patio and “ASAP” as “when you get a chance.”



2 PHYSICAL/ENVIRONMENTAL

Tangible or geographical interferences in the surrounding environment.



EXAMPLE FOR PROBLEM-SOLVING

Noise/Distance:

A project update is missed during a video conference due to poor Wi-Fi connection (faulty equipment) and loud construction noise outside the office.



3 SOCIO-PSYCHOLOGICAL/EMOTIONAL

Mental, personal, or emotional factors of the sender/receiver that distort the message.



EXAMPLE FOR PROBLEM-SOLVING

Fear/Prejudice:

An employee has an innovative idea but has a fear of criticism (Psychological Barrier), leading them to remain silent in the meeting.

Status difference

(Social Barrier) prevents a worker from questioning a senior manager.



4

ORGANIZATIONAL BARRIERS

caused by the structure, rules, and procedures within an organization.



EXAMPLE FOR PROBLEM-SOLVING

Hierarchy/Information Overload:

A crucial warning from a frontline worker gets stuck in the excessive levels of management (Organizational Structure) and doesn't reach the CEO in time.



5

CULTURAL BARRIERS

Differences in cultural backgrounds, norms, values, and non-verbal cues.



EXAMPLE FOR PROBLEM-SOLVING

Different Norms:

A Canadian CEO is off-put when an intern from a high-power distance culture avoids eye contact (Cultural Barrier), interpreting it as disrespect, when the intern intended it as a sign of respect.



6

PHYSIOLOGICAL BARRIERS

Physical limitations or impairments in the body of the communicators.



EXAMPLE FOR PROBLEM-SOLVING

Impairment:

A manager's instructions are partially missed by an employee with hearing loss, or a presentation is illegible due to the presenter's poor handwriting (Physiological limitation).



[Attempt Quiz Click Here](#)