Open Learning
Translation Department

Third Year First Term

An Introduction to Speaking and Listening

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Hello everyone

Now we are going to persist in our Listening and Speaking Skills.

We are going to begin with the speaking today.

Do you have the file at your hand? You should know that it is a theoretical subject; so, you have to memorize a lot actually. I have previously said that it is supposed to be a practical subject, but it didn't work depending on the current situation.

The definition of speaking sounds really easy and common sense. I'm producing meaning for you in order to understand and the idea that I'm giving you while you are listening, you are supposed to create the massage out of my speaking. The context that we are now in is a lecture. The language that we are speaking is a little bit formal and it demands certain circumstances in order to produce and receive the massage.

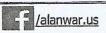
Now, we are going to read from the file and discuss; <u>How can</u>

we define speaking from page 3:

Speaking is an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves <u>producing</u> and <u>receiving</u> and processing information. Its form and meaning are dependent on <u>the context</u> in which it occurs, including <u>the participants</u> themselves, their <u>collective experiences</u>, the <u>physical environment</u>, and the <u>purposes</u> for speaking.

Have you ever heard with (TED talks)? It's a speaking platform, where the speaker talks and you don't have to respond; you only indicate experience. It motivates the audience. Some of the speakers of this platform are *Bill Gates*, *Ellon Musk* and a lot of famous business persons in the world.

One of the most important speakers is *Barak Obama*. He was very interesting with his talks; he uses body language, intonation when he lowers his voice, when he stresses important points in a way, he can affect audience and can make you emotionally involved, all in a way that he can convince you with his talking.





Maybe that's because he was a lawyer before being a president.

Speaking is a skill at the end.

Back to the lecture, the way I speak differs when I speak in a mosque than in the bus. It differs when I speak with a woman I know than with someone I don't know. The purpose of speaking defines the way that I speak.

We have defined the discourse previously, just like the discourse of feminism; they have a way of speaking, a way for

debate to convince you with their opinions.

America uses discourse of the American dream to convince us through their talking; they talk about democracy, justice, human rights, but are they? No, it's just propaganda; it's a discourse.

Why do I need to learn language? It's very embarrassing to be graduated from this university and you are so weak in speaking.

What are the skills of the speaker, other than producing the

language?

Student: intonation.

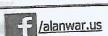
Instructor: intonation is the way I lower and rise my voice, stress the letters, and pause. For Example: when I speak in a sad topic, I have to deliver it in a low tone. If I'm talking in a powerful subject, I have to raise my voice and stress the accent. So, intonation is a tool of the language.

One of other skills is to know your audience, their back knowledge to use vocabulary that they can understand. You can watch the expressions on their faces to know if they are getting your massage, if they like your discussion or if they feel bored.

Could anyone from you read the last paragraph of lecture (1):

Other Skills that have to do with having a good speaking skill:

- Producing the sounds, stress patterns, rhythmic structure, and intonation of the language correctly;
 - Using grammar structures accurately;
 - Assessing characteristics of the target audience, including





shared knowledge or shared points of reference, status and power relations of participants, interest levels, or differences in perspectives;

So, status and power relations, what does that mean?

* For example, if I'm talking to my superior of foreign language or the dean of my department, I use different language than that I speak while talking with my students.

* For example: If you are addressing me, you use language different from the language that you use with your colleague. You have to know the power relation between you and your audience.

* If you are translating for a president, you must be very formal and respectful in speaking all the time.

- Selecting vocabulary that is understandable and appropriate for the audience, the topic being discussed, and the setting in which the speed act occurs;
- Applying strategies to enhance comprehensibility, such as emphasizing key words, rephrasing, or checking for listener comprehension;

Other Skills:

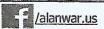
- Using gestures or body language;
- Paying attention to the success of the interaction and adjusting components of speech such as vocabulary,
- Rate of speech, and complexity of grammar structures to maximize listener comprehension and involvement.

Other Skills

- Speakers are supposed to keep their hearers in mind and watch their reactions.
- A speaker cannot be considered good if he\she is unable to use the correct vocabulary and to use the suitable form of formality or informality as required by the situation.

I believe that it's a common sense; there isn't any hard ideas in the skills.

In page (6) from *lecture (1)*; there are three kinds of speaking situations:





1-Interactive:

That's when I expect the listener to react with me

2-Partially interactive:

That's where you can interrupt me; like in a lecture you can interrupt me and ask for further explanation, ask for repetition and whatever you wish me to do.

And, I can ask you to rephrase what I just have said in order to make sure you understand my lecture.

There is some dialogue between us.

3-Non-interactive:

There is only one speaker and you just have to listen to him; like presidential speech, lawyer speech.

1-Interactive Speaking:

Telephone calls and face to face conversations are included in interactive speaking situations where speaking and listening are alternatives in English. In the interactive speaking situations, there will be a chance to ask and repetition, clarification or request for a slower speech from the conversation partner.

Therefore, interactive speaking situations are more useful situations both for the speaker and the listener as they can understand the matter without having any further doubts.

2-Partially-interactive Speaking:

In partially-interactive situations, a speech is given to the audience and the audience does not interrupt the speaker's speech. In partially-interactive conversations, the speaker can directly see the audience and also judge from their facial expressions, the gestures whether the participants have understood his\her speech or not. Here the audience can clarify their doubts through the question-and-answer session that generally takes place at the end of the speech presentation.

3-Non-interactive Speaking:

In non-interactive speaking situations, there will not be any interaction of the audience where speakers have to just record their speech for a radio broadcast.



YOU HAVE TO MEMORIZE ALL OF THE SPEAKING SITUATIONS FROM THE FILE.

Let's move on to the second lecture, and it's about formal and informal situations.

We can practice the language for about half an hour after the lecture ends.

So, half of the lecture will be theoretical, and the other half will be like practicing on speaking and listening during our lecture.

What's the meaning of formal language?

Student: official language.

Instructor: Yes, it is.

It's always used in written language, you have to use correct grammar and pronunciation.

The informal language is the street language (slang); we use it

while we text one another or email between friends.

If you listen to black people in America, you will find a lot of slang and impolite words; they also use phrases such as: (They has \ I wear)

Forms of Address: Formal and Informal Language

• Formal and informal language serves different purposes. The tone, the choice of words and the way the words are put together vary between the two styles.

Formal language and informal language are associated with

particular choices of grammar and vocabulary.

• Knowing when to use formal or informal English at work will depend on the business, the industry, who you are speaking with, and what you are talking about.

Forms of Address: Formal language

- We use formal language in situations that are serious or that involve people we don't know well.
 - It is more common when we write.
- Spoken English can be very formal, for example, in a speech or a lecture.
 - More formal vocabulary commonly involves longer words





or words with origins in Latin and Greek. Examples: commence, terminate, endeavor.

 Formal language is less personal than informal language. It is used when writing language does not use colloquialisms, contractions or first-person pronouns such as 'I' or 'We'.

 We speak formally when we address our employers or our professors, for example.

Forms of Address: Formal Language

• We often choose to use certain modal verbs to be more formal and polite.

Examples:

*Can I suggest you try this dish?

*May I ask a question?

*Might I have a word with you?

 When you are working cross-culturally or with people you do not know very well, using formal language helps eliminate any misunderstandings and helps you sound polite and professional.

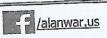
For example; in academic researches we were not allowed to use the personal pronoun (I) but not now; you are allowed to use it in most of your researches, although there are some situations that you can't use the personal pronoun in your essay. We use (I) these days, but traditional professors reject using it; that's because I have to be objective within my research or essay. I'm not supposed to be attached with my topic.

Cross-culturally: it's when I address to someone from a different culture. I have to use formal language in order not to be misunderstood. If I used slang, I might say something offensive to him.

Forms of Address: Informal Language

 Informal language is more commonly used in situations that are more relaxed and involve people we know well.

• Informal language is more common when we speak. However, there are times where writing can be very informal, for example, when writing postcards or letters to friends, emails or text messages.





• Contractions and ellipsis are more common in informal language.

• Examples of ellipsis: "Went to Barcelona for the weekend.

Lots to tell you."

• More informal vocabulary commonly involves shorter words, or words with origins in Anglo-Saxon. Example: start, end, try

Forms of Address: Informal Language

• Informal language is more casual and spontaneous. The tone of informal language is more personal than formal language.

• Using very formal English in everyday situations can sound pompous, so always think about the context and your target

audience.

Ellipsis: like (OMG).

It's also like when you omit verbs from the sentence but the listener can understand the massage.

Nothing is omitted from the file, I'm just explaining hard points, while the rest of the file are easy ideas; so, I don't think that we have to discuss it here, but you have to memorize all of it well. I have to write 100 questions, maybe 50 with two marks for each question; I haven't decided yet.

ملاحظة مهمة:

الملف مطلوب حفظه كاملاً للفحص والدكتورة سوف تناقش الأفكار الصعبة فقط وتترك لكم حفظ باقي الملف وباقي المحاضرات سيكون عبارة عن مناقشات خارجية لتقوية المحادثة.

تأكدوا من حصولكم على ملف الاستماع من مكتبة الأنوار.

See you next time
Take care



