

COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR PROFESSIONALS LAB

Paper Code: ETHS-351	L	T/P	C
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Objective: To develop communication competence in prospective engineers so that they are able to communicate information as well as their thoughts and ideas with clarity and precision. These activities will enhance students' communication skills with a focus on improving their oral communication both in formal and informal situations. They will develop confidence in facing interviews and participating in group discussions which have become an integral part of placement procedures of most business organisations today.

Lab Activities to be conducted:

1. **Listening and Comprehension Activities** – Listening to selected lectures, seminars, news (BBC, CNN, etc.). Writing a brief summary or answering questions on the material listened to.
2. **Reading Activities** -- Reading different types of texts for different purposes with focus on the sound structure and intonation patterns of English. Emphasis on correct pronunciation.
3. **Conversation Activities**-- Effective Conversation Skills; Formal/Informal Conversation; Addressing higher officials, colleagues, subordinates, a public gathering; Participating in a video conference.
4. **Making an Oral Presentation**–Planning and preparing a model presentation; Organizing the presentation to suit the audience and context; Connecting with the audience during presentation; Projecting a positive image while speaking; Emphasis on effective body language.
5. **Making a Power Point Presentation** -- Structure and format; Covering elements of an effective presentation; Body language dynamics.
6. **Making a Speech** -- Basics of public speaking; Preparing for a speech; Features of a good speech; Speaking with a microphone. Famous speeches may be played as model speeches for learning the art of public speaking. Some suggested speeches: Barack Obama, John F Kennedy, Nelson Mandela, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawahar Lal Nehru, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Subhash Chandra Bose, Winston Churchill, Martin Luther King Jr.
7. **Participating in a Group Discussion** -- Structure and dynamics of a GD; Techniques of effective participation in group discussion; Preparing for group discussion; Accepting others' views / ideas; Arguing against others' views or ideas, etc.
8. **Participating in Mock Interviews** -- Job Interviews: purpose and process; How to prepare for an interview; Language and style to be used in an interview; Types of interview questions and how to answer them.

Suggested Lab Activities:

1. Interview through telephone/video-conferencing
2. Extempore, Story Telling, Poetry Recitation
3. Mock Situations and Role Play; Enacting a short skit
4. Debate (Developing an Argument), News Reading and Anchoring.

Reference Books:

1. Patnaik, Priyadarshi. *Group Discussion and Interview Skills: With VCD*. Cambridge University Press India (Foundation Books), 2012 edition.
2. Kaul, Asha. *Business Communication*. PHI Learning: 2009.
3. Hartman and Lemay. *Presentation Success: A Step-by-Step Approach*. Thomson Learning, 2000.

Note: The Communication Skills Lab should be equipped with computers, microphones, an internet connection, overhead projector, screen, sound system, audio/video recording facilities, and seating arrangement for GDs and mock interviews. The student activities may be recorded and students may replay them to analyse and improve their pronunciation, tone, expressions, body language, etc.

Traditional language lab softwares are not mandatory and may be used by students to practice and enhance their language competence. Such softwares are usually elementary in nature and are mostly based on British/American English (pronunciation, accent and expression). They should preferably be in Indian English.