

## Communication Achievement and the Need for Language Reform

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### Abstract

Globalization and modern technology have drastically reduced the constraints of time and space between the different nations of the world. To cope with the exigencies of the twenty-first century, people from different linguistic and socio-cultural contexts need to communicate rapidly, more efficiently and, eventually, at a lower cost. To achieve communication, we have at our disposal a considerable number of natural and human-made means. Language, however, remains the most effective medium that can actually bridge the gap between the different peoples of the world. The present article is a brief survey of some salient aspects of verbal communication. With a special reference to English, it evokes a reconsideration of the role of the linguistic means in achieving communication. Accordingly, three interrelated concerns of verbal communication are discussed. These are namely (1) how verbal communication achievement depends largely on the linguistic meaning as a means that triggers the contextual meaning, (2) the linguistic and contextual disturbances that may partly or wholly obscure communication and (3) the implications of such issues with regard to intercultural communication and foreign language learning. Then, a paradox of paramount importance is raised with regard to the English language. English is increasingly standing out as the first international lingua franca of the twenty-first century, while its linguistic system continues to suffer from many inherent inconsistencies. Therefore, it is deemed that the first global language needs to undergo some serious remedial reforms with the purpose of making it easier to learn and more efficient to use.

**Keywords:** communication achievement, inconsistency, language reform.