

Ways of communication

Pre-task:

How important are gestures and facial expressions in your country? Are there languages/cultures that use more or fewer gestures?

Task 1:

The messages we intend to send in a conversation aren't always the ones that are received: we often encounter misunderstandings in our daily life. Talk about the different misunderstandings that can arise from:

- Gender-specific language
- Verbal and non-verbal communication (the difference between gestures and facial expressions on the one hand and words on the other hand)
- Communication in a foreign language. Consider especially the importance of pragmatics* here, and think about how you can deal with these issues.

(*pragmatics: The branch of linguistics dealing with language in use and the contexts in which it is used, including such matters as deixis, the taking of turns in conversation, text organization, presupposition, and implicature. (oxforddictionaries.com))