**Listening Diagnostic ELS 004**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Warm-Up Discussion**

What does “great communication” mean? What are some barriers to communication?

Does everyone communicate the same way? Do artists, teachers, scientists and engineers have similar/different communication styles?

What was Alice in Wonderland and what does the idiom “down the rabbit hole” mean?

What do the words “nerd” and “nerdy” mean?

**Prediction**

The title of this lecture is “Talk Nerdy to Me”. Based on this title, and on the discussion we just had, what do you predict you will learn in this lecture? *(1 pt.)*

**Take Notes**

Watch the “TED Talk” video and take notes. If you run out of room, use the back of this paper.

**Lecture Questions**.

Write short answers to these questions. You may use your lecture notes to help you.

1. What is the main idea of this TED talk? (*2 pts.)*

2. What experience did the speaker have that led to her ideas about “how to talk nerdy”? *(1 pt.)*

3. According to the speaker, why is great communication from scientists and engineers important? *(2 pts.)*

4. What 4 things did the speaker say scientists and engineers should do when speaking to non-technical people? *(4 pts.)*

*Inference*:

5. Why does the speaker use the analogy of Alice in Wonderland? *(2 pts.)*

6. Based on the advice the speaker gives to scientists and engineers for communicating with non-scientists, what do you think the speaker would advise in the reverse situation (in other words, when non-scientists communicate their ideas to scientists and engineers)? Use details from the lecture to explain your answer. *(2 pts.)*

7. Do you think it would be easy or difficult for scientists and engineers to follow the speaker’s advice? Explain why you think so. *(2 pts.)*

**Shorthand Techniques**

What do each of the following symbols and abbreviations mean?*(1/2 pt. each)*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 8. | sth |  | 12. | ≈ |  |
| 9. | w/ |  | 13. | i.e. |  |
| 10. | < |  | 14. | → |  |
| 11. | : |  | 15. | b/t |  |

16. What is an acronym? Provide an example. *(1 pt.)*

**Fact/Opinion.**

Directions: Listen to sentences from the lecture. Write “Fact” or “Opinion” for each. *(1 pt. each)*

17. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 18. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Idioms**

19. What does the idiom “jargon” mean when the speaker says “Beware of jargon”? *(1 pt.)*

20. What does the idiom “to dumb something down” mean when the speaker says scientists should not dumb down their ideas? *(1 pt.)*

**Warm-Up Discussion** ANSWER KEY: TOTAL 25 PTS.

What does “great communication” mean? What are some barriers to communication?

Does everyone communicate the same way? Do artists, teachers, scientists and engineers have similar/different communication styles?

What was Alice in Wonderland and what does the idiom “down the rabbit hole” mean?

What do the words “nerd” and “nerdy” mean?

**Prediction**

The title of this lecture is “Talk Nerdy to Me”. Based on this title, and on the discussion we just had, what do you predict you will learn in this lecture*? (1 pt.)* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y66YKWz_sf0>

Accept reasonable answers that reflect an understanding of the warm-up discussion.

**Take Notes**

Watch the “TED Talk” video and take notes. If you run out of room, use the back of this paper.

**Lecture Questions**.

Write short answers to these questions. You may use your lecture notes to help you.

1. What is the main idea of this TED talk? (*2 pts.)*

Scientists and engineers have a lot of great ideas to communicate, but they need to speak in a way that non-scientists can understand.

2. What experience did the speaker have that led to her ideas about “how to talk nerdy”? *(1 pt.)*

She was teaching a communications class for engineering students.

3. According to the speaker, why is great communication from scientists and engineers important? *(2 pts.)*

*To “change the world” - they are tackling are greatest challenges, and their work isn’t done until others know about it and understand it.*

4. What 4 things did the speaker say scientists and engineers should do when speaking to non-technical people? *(4 pts.)*

Explain the “so what” (purpose)

Avoid scientific jargon

Avoid bullet points on slides – use single sentence with pictures instead

Use stories, analogies, examples

*Inference*:

5. Why does the speaker use the analogy of Alice in Wonderland? *(2 pts.)*

Because just like Alice found a whole new world she didn’t know existed, the speaker found a whole new world once she was able to engage in “great communication” with scientists and engineers.

6. Based on the advice the speaker gives to scientists and engineers for communicating with non-scientists, what do you think the speaker would advise in the reverse situation (in other words, when non-scientists communicate their ideas to scientists and engineers)? Use details from the lecture to explain your answer. *(2 pts.)*

Accept reasonable answers supported by details from the lecture. Possible answers:

1) put ideas in scientific terms (such as how she concludes her speech with a formula)

2) some advice equally valid – avoid jargon, use stories, explain the “so what”

7. Do you think it would be easy or difficult for scientists and engineers to follow the speaker’s advice? Explain why you think so. *(2 pts.)*

Accept reasonable, supported answers that indicate an understanding of the content of the talk.

**Abbreviations and Symbols**

What do each of the following symbols and abbreviations mean?*(1/2 pt. each)*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 8*.* | sth | something | 12. | ≈ | approximately |
| 9. | w/ | with | 13. | i.e. | that is, for example |
| 10. | < | less than | 14. | → | causes |
| 11. | : | includes | 15. | b/t | between |

16. What is an acronym? Provide an example. *(1 pt.)*

Using the first letter of each word to abbreviate the name of something. Example: ERLI

**Fact/Opinion.**

These sentences will be read aloud (only once).

17. Opinion. We desperately need great communication from our scientists and engineers in order to change the world.

18. Fact. Jargon is a barrier to communication.

**Idioms**

19. What does the idiom “jargon” mean when the speaker says “Beware of jargon”? *(1 pt.)*

terminology specific to a particular field of study

20. What does the idiom “to dumb something down” mean when the speaker says scientists should not dumb down their ideas? *(1 pt.)*

make them so easy that they lose their ability to explain