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Comm 308

November 29, 2012

Paper #3

Nonverbal communication and vocalics are used every day in most interactions to more effectively express what you are feeling. Vocalics have a very big impact on a majority of my day to day interactions. For this paper my partner was my roommate Brian. I read two different statements using different emotions each time that I read them. The results were interesting to say the least. When trying to express emotion what you say and how you say it both come into play if you want to communicate effectively. Vocalics are beneficial for most interactions but they can also make it harder to communicate, understand what emotions are being expressed, and it changes some of your nonverbal behaviors.

To my surprise I found that it was much easier to express happiness, sadness, and anger. The two statements are expressing two different things, love for pizza, and sarcasm towards bad grades. “I love pizza so much, I really think I could eat it three meals a day everyday for the rest of my life” is a happy statement about my love for pizza which made expressing happy emotions more apparent. Saying that “I feel great when I get bad grades” in an angry manor is very easy to do because I’ve used sarcasm in the past when talking to Brian so he could tell immediately that I was unhappy with my grades.

Some emotions were harder than others to communicate for example disgust, fear, and surprise. Disgust, fear, and surprise were hard to convey in the statement “I love pizza so much, I really think I could eat it three meals a day everyday for the rest of my life” because it’s hard to show negative emotions when talking about loving something. The second statement “I feel great when I get bad grades” is saying that I feel great about something that I in fact don’t like at all. Saying these statements in disgust, fear, and surprise came off as extremely hard to understand, and made it seem like I wasn’t disgusted or scared at all. Saying the first statement with fear was hard to do because I was talking about something I love and generally people don’t fear things they love which made things confusing and hard to communicate. Finally, acting surprised was the hardest to convey because I wasn’t saying something that surprised me I was just stating what I love to eat pizza.

The six emotions happiness, fear, surprise, sadness, disgust, and anger are expressed by me in my everyday interactions. These emotions are generally expressed with ease because I carefully chose the appropriate words to help convey my emotion. When I express these emotions on a daily basis it is much easier because I am just communicating how I legitimately feel and I can choose how I phrase what I am saying. With these statements it was much harder because I had no control over what I was saying and I didn’t agree with some of the given emotions in reference to the statements. Even though I used the proper tone, pitch and volume for every one of the six emotions they were still difficult to identify primarily because of their content.

My roommate Brian was able to correctly identify three of the six emotions. He guessed happiness, sadness, and anger correctly. He couldn’t however identify disgust, surprise or fear. He almost identified disgust, but he perceived it as sarcasm due to the fact that I was saying “I love pizza so much, I really think I could eat it three meals a day everyday for the rest of my life” and he knows that that is something that would make me happy normally. On the other hand anger, happiness, and sadness were easy for him to identify because he lives with me and sees those emotions on a daily basis so he can tell if I am angry, happy or sad. Fear was probably the hardest for him to identify he thought it was sadness because I was speaking with a lower pitch and my tone was much quieter and almost sad and nervous at the same time.

In addition to changing my voice I also changed a lot of nonverbal behaviors both intentionally and unintentionally. When I was saying the statements in a happy manor my eyebrows lifted and I was smiling and a little more animated then I usually am. When expressing sadness I spoke quietly and I looked tired and like I was about to cry at the same time my lip was quivering and my eyebrows were down and it was apparent that I was upset. Fear was really hard to communicate and it came off like I was sad about something. When I was acting surprised I tried to act like I was shocked, I took lots of pauses with my mouth wide open and a shocked look on my face. Disgust was also hard to display nonverbally I made a face like I had just bit into a sour lemon, pure disgust. Finally, I expressed anger by talking much louder and scrunching up my nose and unintentionally shaking my head back and forth slightly.

Overall, emotional expression drastically affects my vocalics. If I am expressing anger I speak louder with a lower pitch and an aggressive tone. When I am sad I speak softly with a weak depressed tone. When I am happy I have a positive tone and normal pitch. The emotion that I am trying to express directly affects my vocalic and my vocalics help me to communicate my emotion more effectively. Without vocalics it would be very hard to display your emotions without directly saying how you feel all of the time.

In conclusion, nonverbal communication and vocalics are used every day to more effectively communicate emotions. Some emotions are harder to identify then others in different situations. There are many factors that affect how you are perceived by others. When it comes to effectively communicating emotion, it not only matters what you say, but how you say it as well. Nonverbal communication and vocalics are essential to successfully communicating emotion.

**Grading Sheet for Paper 3**

**(Attach to the back of your paper)**

Introduction

­­­\_\_\_\_\_/ 5: Clear introduction to paper. The introduction should have a thesis statement that lays out both sections of the paper. The paper should also preview

Body

\_\_\_\_\_/ 25: Each of the questions should be answered. The answers should be complete, provide details about the interaction, and give information about the outcome of the interaction.

Conclusion

\_\_\_\_\_/ 5: Clear conclusion. The conclusion should summarize the paper and revisit the thesis statement from the introduction. This should be a wrap-up and review of the paper.

*Style and writing (10 points)*

\_\_\_\_\_/ 5: The paper was clearly written. The paper flowed from introduction to conclusion. Spelling and punctuation mistakes should also be avoided.

\_\_\_\_\_/ 5: The paper met the minimum page requirement **(3 pages)**. Formatting is correct (1 inch margins) and the paper included the **title page and grading sheet**.

***Grades will be reduced for work turned in late. 5 points a day (or 10%) will be deducted per day up to five days. After five days the paper will be given a zero.*** \_\_\_\_\_: Grade Reduction

\_\_\_\_\_/ 50: Final Score