

EASYMEET / KOLAYARKADAŞ

by

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EASYMEET / KOLAYARKADAŞ

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ABSTRACT

EASYMEET

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Keywords: interaction design, virtual community, meeting support, matchmaking

There are no certain rules of conduct for social engagement that one can learn and obide so he can succeed. Most of the times we observe others, most probably our elders, and imitate the actions hoping for fulfillment. Some people miss out on this advantage and obtain certain disabilities in becoming acquainted with others. Today, with the structure of the internet technology, we live in the information overload era. We have access to more information than ever before, so it is only the process of limiting the information to best suit our needs. Easymeet aims to help the so called socially challenged by limiting their choices to a margin of least error in social conducts thus making meeting people easier.

Easymeet.exe

ÖZ

KOLAYARKADAŞ

Fatih Polat

Görsel Sanatlar Görsel İletişim Tasarım Yüksek Lisans Programı

Tez Yöneticisi: Ragıp İstek

Anahtar Kelimeler: bilgi tasarımı, sanal topluluk, tanışma danışmanlığı, arkadaş bulma

Sosyal iletişim için öğrenilip uygulandığında mutlak başarıya ulaşacak bir davranış kuralları toplamı yoktur. Çoğu zamanlar, başka kişileri, çoğunlukla kendimizden yaşça büyükleri izleyip onların davranışlarını taklit edip başarıya ulaşmayı umarız. Bazı kişiler bu avantaja sahip olamayabilirler ve diğer kişilerle tanışmakta belirli zorluklar yaşayabilirler. Bugün internet teknolojisinin yapısı ile birlikte aşırı bilgi yükleme çağında olduğumuzu söyleyebiliriz. Daha önce mümkün olmadığı kadar bilgiye erişimimiz var ve yapmamız gereken tek şey bu bilgiyi kendi ihtiyaçlarımıza göre kısıtlamaktır. Kolayarkadaş sosyal iletişimde zorluk çekenler için , tercihlerini en az hataya yer verecek şekilde kısıtlayarak başkaları ile tanışmayı daha kolay hale getirmeyi amaçlamaktadır.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Introduction:

If you have been rejected many times in your life, then one more rejection isn't going to make much difference. If you're rejected, don't automatically assume it's your fault. The other person may have several reasons for not doing what you are asking her to do: none of it may have anything to do with you. Perhaps the person is busy or not feeling well or genuinely not interested in spending time with you. Rejections are part of everyday life. Don't let them bother you. Keep reaching out to others. When you begin to receive positive responses then you are on the right track. It's all a matter of numbers. Count the positive responses and forget about the rejections. (Meeting People is Easy)

The fear of rejection is probably the most common of the many reasons why people are uncomfortable with dating. But the odds are that in one's journey of dating or even the simplest type of conduct, he will suffer from rejection more than acceptance. The more the type of people one will meet, the better chance of being successful on an intimacy level. In the past, the first steps of social conducts took place in cafe's, bars, movies that entertained people from different backgrounds but shared the same interests. Today, millions of users from entirely different backgrounds log on to the internet, thus making it the perfect space for initializing social intimacy.

The Web can also put you in touch with people that may have more in common with you than a lot of the people in your real world. And connecting with all

these folks may be less nerve-wracking than meeting people face-to-face. You don't have to worry about awkward pauses, bad breath, or other first-date killers. You have a chance to give and get a first impression that goes deeper than "hot or not."

(Meeting people online)

SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

Meeting People:

There may be many people "out there" who you could be good friends with or could be happily married to. However, you will never meet most of them. They live in another city or a block away, and you never meet them. Or, one person could be unavailable because he/she is already in a committed relationship. Or, perhaps one or both are so busy, they don't give any priority or time to meeting others. So sad if you never meet. For that reason, active searching for others and meeting many people statistically increases your odds of finding someone highly compatible to you. On the other hand if someone is not available for whatever the reason may be, don't waste time thinking about that person. Instead, spend your time productively looking for someone who is available. (Skills For Meeting People, Dating, and Developing Intimacy)

The rules for social engagement are not obvious to anybody. For some people it may come as so easy that they have multiple dates for the same evening while others may find it as difficult to shiver with fear even having the thought of a newly social conduct. Whatever the difficulty in solving it is, the problem remains the same. To understand better about the other party, one should seek for common interests, dislikes, the grounds to start a reciprocating conversation.

Fear of expression:

Getting the nerve up to ask someone to go out with you can be very difficult. There are a lot more reasons to be afraid than there are for being brave. Many of us have self-esteem issues firmly rooted in our childhood stories that hold us frozen and afraid to really reach out to others. Our parents, siblings, or neighborhood friends taught us that we were less than beautiful, that we aren't clever enough, wealthy enough, or likable enough. A string of broken hearts and failed relationships can only add to the fear that perhaps those people were right and we really aren't all that lovable. But oh how our souls long for someone to love who will love us back, forever.

One of the greatest crimes to mankind is that our childhoods are often so messed up. Few parents really know how to teach their children about how to earn self-esteem through hard work, tenacity, and successfully accomplishing our goals. We aren't taught how to self-manage, self-monitor, self-discipline, and create a sense of self-respect that holds strong regardless of what naysayers may think of us. Most of us did not have parents who sat down with us on a regular basis to show us examples of everyday average looking people finding other everyday average looking people to fall in love with. We were left to define love, romance, sexuality, and ourselves according to our peers, television, movies, and fashion magazines. Is it any wonder that very few young adults start out with a healthy positive self-esteem? (Fear of Rejection)

Easymeet is not a cure for the socially challenged but merely a tool that will help themselves bypass some of their difficulties like the fear of expression or the fear of rejection via the internet's anonymity and prolonging face to face contact until each of the parties are ready for the event.

CYBERSPACE COMMUNITIES

The Internet identity

The internet is the new communication medium where we can rebuild our identities while separating our physical bodies but still remaining intact, maybe more intact than ever before. Sherry Turkle believed that 'most use the digital domain to exercise a more true identity, or a multiplicity of identities.' (Who Am We?)

Face-to-face meetings, and even telephone conversations, involuntarily reveal crucial aspects of identity such as gender, age, and race. However, these bits of identity are completely masked by computer-mediated communications; all that is revealed is what we choose to reveal -- and then only if we choose to tell the truth. The rise of computer-mediated communications is giving people the means to try on alternative personae. (Allucquère, Rosanne Stone)

On the internet, while remaining anonymous, we can truly show ourselves without the fear of rejection or the fear of expression and embarrassment. Our online identity us to reconstruct ourselves and conduct in social engagements otherwise impossible. This alone is the key to a successful first social conduct.

Even though transient relationships exist, there is no doubt that long-term friendships, romances, and marriages have resulted from online meetings. Because people have access to numerous people in cyberspace, a filtering process occurs in which a person narrows down

(based on both conscious and unconscious motivations) the range of potential contacts - and then chooses someone with whom to develop a relationship. (Psychology of Cyberspace)

Conclusion:

Easymeet is, in its simple form, an online matchmaking service. It will not try and mend the socially challenged, or will not cure the social disorders one can have but with the anonymity of the internet, it will surely help to better one's chances on finding their match by narrowing down the error margin that could be caused by certain social disabilities or just plain shyness. It is an online community platform which users of the same interest will find each other and share ideas or more.

The nature of the graphics being depressing and whatnot is to point out to a reflection of the user's state of mind. The graphics are anything but subtle, in fact they are made to be distinct. Both the graphics on the application and the promotional material suggest a certain level of taste and clearly separates some users from the others. This separation is a key element to reduce the users' chances to meet more educated users like themselves. The key demographics of this application is the highly educated, more tasteful parts of the society who are shy to put out in a newspaper ad or even know that when they do, the replicants to their ads wouldn't satisfy them because of the social inconsistencies. So the layout and the style of this product is by itself, a distinguish between different kinds of people who share nothing in between.

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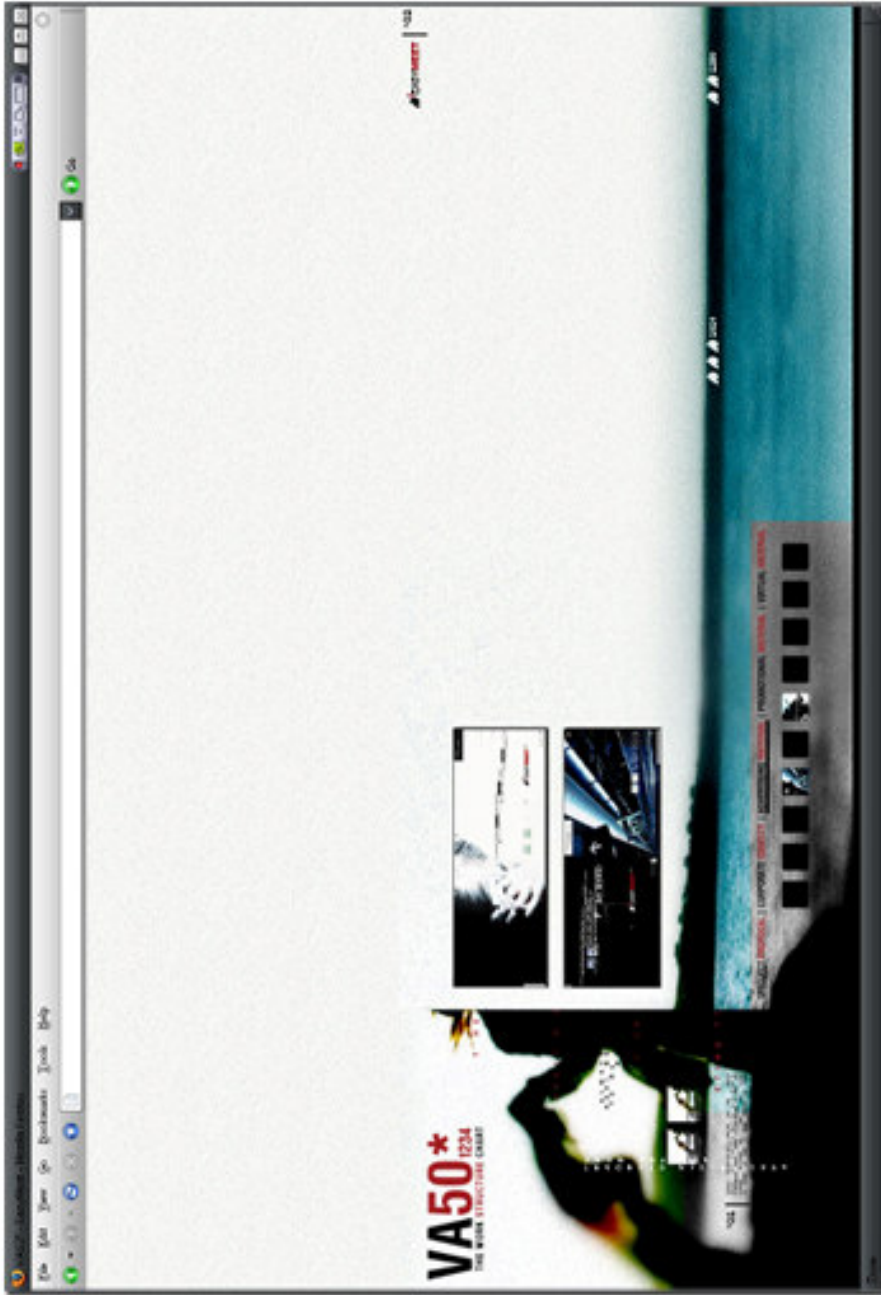
"Psychology of Cyberspace" John Suler 25 Jan 2006
<<http://www.rider.edu/~suler/psycyber/relationships.html>>

APPENDIX 1

Samples from the Easymeet Project

Projects' Presentation Page

Project CDROM Layout Designs

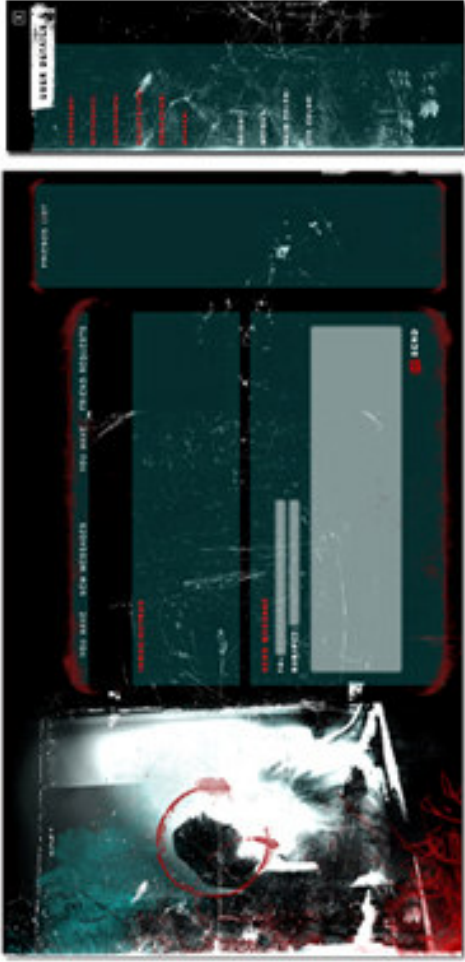




PROJECT CDROM LAYOUT DESIGNS



PROJECT CDROM LAYOUT DESIGNS

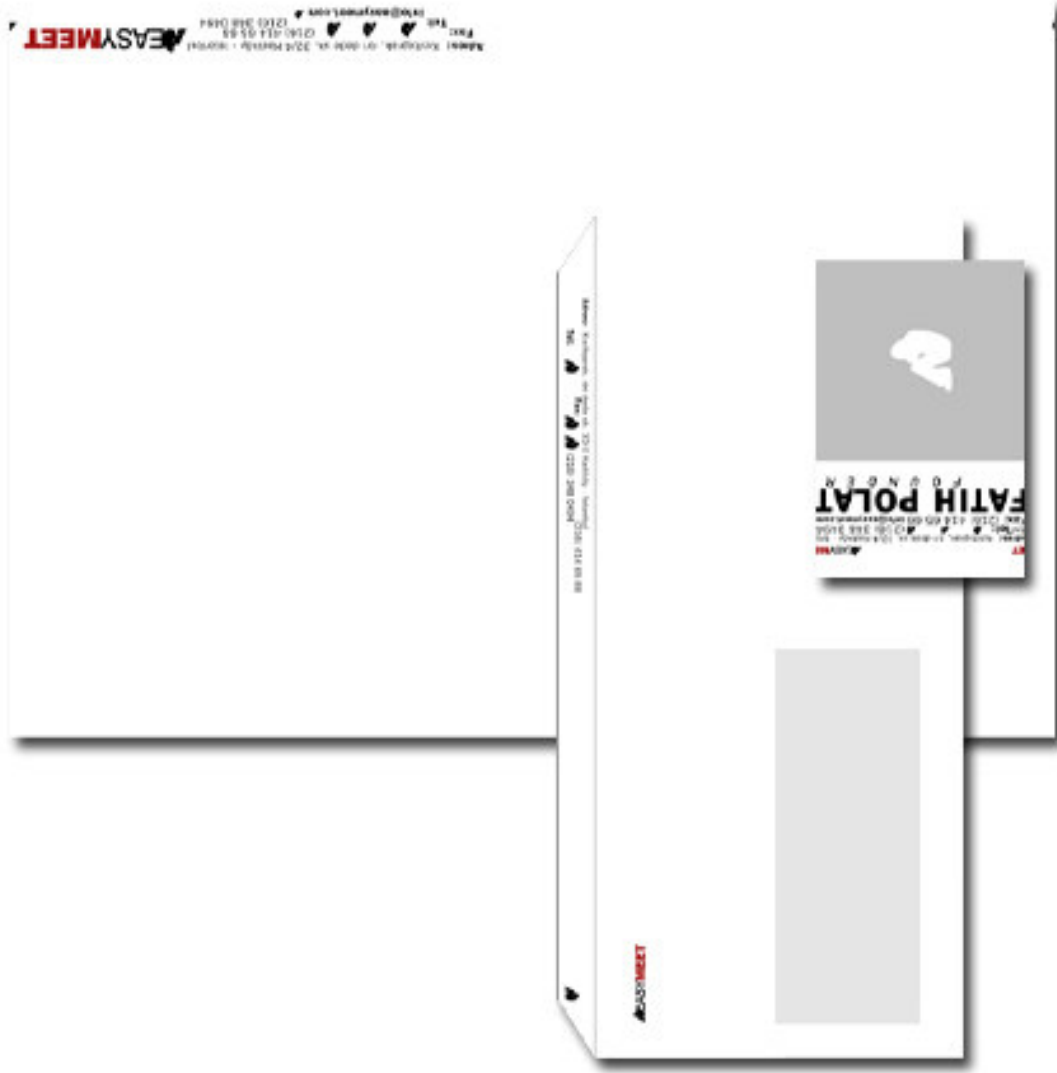


PROJECT CDROM LAYOUT DESIGNS

Corporate Identity

Corporate Identity

Calendar Application



C O R P O R A T E I D E N T I T Y



CALENDAR APPLICATION

Introductory Materials

Brochure

Posters

Wallpapers



BROCHURE



POSTERS



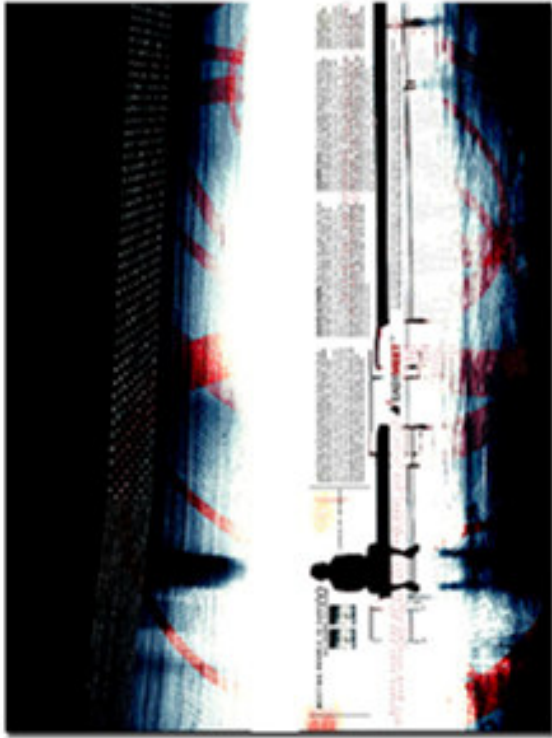
POSTERS

Promotional Materials

Wallpapers

Flip Book

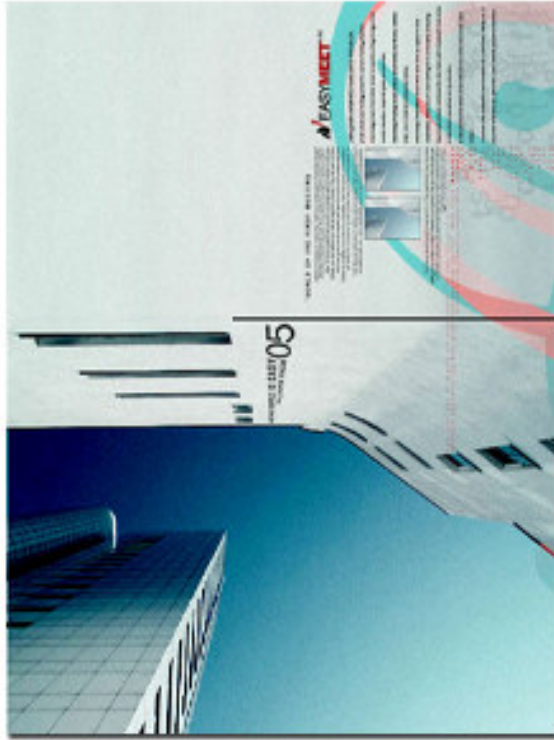
MP3 Player Application



WALLPAPERS



WALLPAPERS



WALLPAPERS



POCKET FLIP BOOK







COMPARISON
POSITIVE HISTORY 01

According to research by the University of California, Berkeley, the number of positive contacts is directly related to the number of negative contacts. Simply put, the more of one, the more of the other. This theory may be an oversimplification, but there's about 1/3 of a



COMBAT
POSITIVE HISTORY 02

and the connections being cut off, and those reconnected and later reflected. More than there is in your life is negativity, then do you try to control and you do what you can to give your partner what they need. (negative) your degree of attack. Negative needs without going up too much or positive. You can't have all 30 contacts with the other. Your positive contacts increase the intensity that your partner

person has left you feeling only will value you and feel closer to you. Negative contacts increase

intensity. Instead, how do you feel distance and negativity. It's not just a good and positive person who someone who usually is either or negative toward you?



CONNECTION
POSITIVE HISTORY 03

It's not about how much you like someone, but how you can be the best way to achieve that connection. If you're not getting along with someone, it's not about how much you like someone, but how you can be the best way to achieve that connection. If you're not getting along with someone, it's not about how much you like someone, but how you can be the best way to achieve that connection. If you're not getting along with someone, it's not about how much you like someone, but how you can be the best way to achieve that connection.





Give genuine compliments to your partner when you can. Talk about your **feelings** about the current situation. Be specific about what you like and what you don't like. Exchange compliments with honesty about strengths and growth, weaknesses, and a mutual relationship history.

Indicate your availability and intentions for a friendship. **Invite** the other person to join you when they are. Communicate about common **interests** and activities. However, one communication can be perceived as lack of interest if you **don't really mean it**. If someone is busy, you're interested. But just

TIPS FOR THE FIRST MEETING

19 | TIP

FIRST PLANNED ACTIVITY

Even if you are potentially going to get good feedback that your partner is willing to meet, you might not be interested and you want to know what to do next. It's a good idea to have a first meeting, so you can see if there is a fit. It's also a good idea to have a first meeting, so you can see if there is a fit. It's also a good idea to have a first meeting, so you can see if there is a fit.

For more tips on making activity plans, visit www.loveandrelationships.com for more information on building a strong relationship.

20 | DEVELOPING INTIMACY

CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF THE RELATIONSHIP

Establishing regular feedback. Being with someone who understands you is a powerful thing. It's important to have you for being that way is a valuable commodity and other experiences are probably of value to you. To the extent you can, you should have your own with your partner. You can also have your own with your partner. You can also have your own with your partner.

When you have your own with your partner, you can see if there is a fit. It's also a good idea to have a first meeting, so you can see if there is a fit. It's also a good idea to have a first meeting, so you can see if there is a fit.

21 | DEVELOPING INTIMACY

OVERCOMING DIFFERENCES
 One of the most common reasons for relationship failure is the inability to resolve differences. The most common reason for relationship failure is the inability to resolve differences. The most common reason for relationship failure is the inability to resolve differences.

SUCCESSFULLY RESOLVING A DIFFERENCE
 The engagement may be small or subtle. One partner may have a different perspective on a situation than the other. Perhaps someone has a different opinion on a matter. Perhaps someone has a different perspective on a situation than the other. Perhaps someone has a different opinion on a matter. Perhaps someone has a different perspective on a situation than the other.

22 | DEVELOPING INTIMACY

KEY CONVERSATIONAL AND INTIMACY SKILLS

23 | CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS

MORE ON INTRODUCTIONS
 Often the first step in developing a relationship is to make a good first impression. This is often the first step in developing a relationship. This is often the first step in developing a relationship.

24 | CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS

STARTING WITH A COMPLIMENT

It's not just about the compliment itself, but the way you give it. A genuine compliment can make someone's day, while a backhanded one can do the opposite. Learn how to give compliments that are meaningful and appreciated. This book provides practical tips and examples to help you master the art of giving compliments. It covers how to identify genuine compliments, how to give them in a way that is specific and sincere, and how to handle compliments gracefully. Whether you're looking to improve your social skills or simply want to make others feel good, this book is a valuable resource.

25 | CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS

THE CONCEPT OF FREE INFORMATION

Information is a valuable asset, but it's often given away for free. Learn how to identify and utilize free information sources to your advantage. This book explores various ways to gather information without paying for it, such as through public records, open data, and social media. It also discusses the importance of verifying the accuracy of free information and how to use it effectively in your work and personal life. The book provides a comprehensive guide to finding and using free information, helping you stay informed and ahead of the competition.

26 | CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS

ESTABLISH CONVERSATIONAL BALANCE, EQUALITY, AND INTIMACY

Conversations are a delicate balance of give and take. Learn how to establish a conversational balance that is fair and equitable for all parties involved. This book provides practical strategies for creating a conversational environment where everyone has an equal voice and the opportunity to be heard. It covers topics such as active listening, turn-taking, and how to handle conversational dominance. The book also discusses the importance of building intimacy through conversation and how to create a safe and supportive space for others to share their thoughts and feelings. Whether you're in a professional setting or a social gathering, this book offers valuable insights into how to improve your conversational skills and build stronger relationships.

27 | CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS

ESTABLISH CONVERSATIONAL BALANCE, EQUALITY, AND INTIMACY

CONVERSATIONAL BALANCE is the state of reciprocal exchange between two or more people. It is a dynamic process that evolves over time and is influenced by a variety of factors, including the nature of the relationship, the context of the conversation, and the individual characteristics of the participants. In a balanced conversation, each person has an equal opportunity to contribute, and the exchange is reciprocal. This balance is essential for building trust and intimacy in a relationship.

When a person dominates a conversation, it can create a power imbalance that hinders the development of a strong relationship. Conversely, when a person is passive, it can lead to a lack of engagement and interest. To establish conversational balance, it is important to be aware of your own tendencies and to actively seek out opportunities for reciprocal exchange. This can be done by asking open-ended questions, sharing your own thoughts and feelings, and listening attentively to the other person's contributions.

Equality in conversation is also essential for building intimacy. When both parties feel that their contributions are valued and that they have an equal say in the conversation, they are more likely to open up and share their thoughts and feelings. This reciprocal exchange is the foundation of a strong, intimate relationship.

By focusing on establishing conversational balance, equality, and intimacy, you can create a more meaningful and engaging conversation that leads to a deeper understanding of each other and a stronger bond.

28 | CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS

RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR BEGETS TRUST. ESTABLISH TRUST

TRUST IS THE FOUNDATION OF ANY STRONG RELATIONSHIP. It is the confidence that one person has in another's integrity, honesty, and reliability. Without trust, a relationship is built on a shaky foundation and is likely to crumble. To establish trust, it is essential to engage in responsible behavior that demonstrates your commitment to the relationship.

Responsible behavior includes being honest, keeping your promises, and being reliable. It also involves being open and vulnerable, sharing your thoughts and feelings, and listening to the other person's needs and concerns. By consistently demonstrating these qualities, you can build a strong foundation of trust that will support a healthy and lasting relationship.

Trust is not built overnight, but it is a process that can be nurtured over time. Start by being honest in your communication, even when it is difficult. Keep your promises, and follow through on your commitments. Show that you are reliable by being consistent in your actions and words. As you demonstrate these qualities, the other person will begin to trust you, and the relationship will become stronger and more secure.

Remember, trust is a two-way street. While you can take steps to build trust, it is also important to be open to the possibility that the other person may not be able to trust you. In these situations, it is important to communicate openly and honestly, and to work together to address any concerns or misunderstandings. By being transparent and vulnerable, you can help to rebuild trust and strengthen the relationship.

29 | CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS

VARIABLES AFFECT THE SUCCESS OF A RELATIONSHIP

RELATIONSHIPS ARE COMPLEX AND DYNAMIC. They are influenced by a wide range of factors, including the nature of the relationship, the context of the conversation, and the individual characteristics of the participants. These variables can either support or hinder the development of a strong and lasting relationship.

One of the most important variables is communication. Effective communication is essential for building trust, understanding each other's needs and concerns, and resolving conflicts. Without clear and honest communication, a relationship is likely to become strained and eventually break down.

Another key variable is respect. Respecting each other's boundaries, opinions, and feelings is crucial for creating a safe and supportive environment. When both parties feel that they are being treated with respect and dignity, they are more likely to engage in a meaningful and productive relationship.

Consistency is also an important variable. Consistent actions and words demonstrate reliability and trustworthiness, which are essential for building a strong foundation of trust. Inconsistent behavior, on the other hand, can lead to confusion and mistrust, which can ultimately undermine the relationship.

Finally, the ability to resolve conflicts is a critical variable. Every relationship will experience disagreements and conflicts at some point. How these conflicts are handled can either strengthen or weaken the relationship. By approaching conflicts with a calm and open mindset, and by seeking to understand the other person's perspective, you can resolve conflicts in a way that preserves the relationship and even strengthens it.

By being aware of these variables and actively working to address any challenges, you can create a more successful and fulfilling relationship. Remember, a strong relationship is built on a foundation of trust, respect, and effective communication. By focusing on these key areas, you can ensure that your relationship is built to last.

30 | CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS



ASKING QUESTIONS

Asking questions is a great way to show interest in the other person and to learn more about them. It also helps to keep the conversation flowing and gives you the chance to learn more about the person you are talking to.

Open-ended questions are the best to use because they allow the other person to answer in their own words. Examples of open-ended questions include:

- How do you feel about...?
- What do you think about...?
- Can you tell me more about...?
- How did you get into...?
- What are your plans for...?

Examples of closed-ended questions include:

- Do you like...?
- Are you going to...?
- Did you see...?
- Is it raining today?

Remember to listen carefully to the answers you receive and use them to guide your next question. This will help you to have a more meaningful conversation.

35 | CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS



CONVERSATIONAL STYLES

As you read about the different conversational styles, you will notice that some people are more outgoing and talkative, while others are more reserved and listen more. This is because everyone has their own unique conversational style. Some people are more confident and speak more easily, while others are more shy and need more encouragement to speak. Understanding these differences can help you to communicate more effectively with everyone.

There are many different conversational styles, but they can be grouped into three main categories: outgoing, reserved, and shy. Outgoing people are usually confident and speak easily. Reserved people are usually quiet and listen more. Shy people are usually nervous and need more encouragement to speak.

It is important to understand these differences because it can help you to communicate more effectively with everyone. For example, if you are talking to a reserved person, you should give them more time to speak and listen carefully to what they say. If you are talking to an outgoing person, you should listen carefully to what they say and give them more time to speak.

32 | CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS



CONVERSATIONAL STYLES

People who talk to be understood and others listen to understand. They are usually outgoing and talkative. They are usually confident and speak easily. They are usually outgoing and talkative. They are usually confident and speak easily.

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33 | CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS









MP3 PLAYER APPLICATION

APPENDIX 2

PROJECT CD-ROM