

# The Fool speaks and <sup>the</sup> wise listens

## Outline

### 1 Introduction ✓

Listening cultivates patience and broader perspective for accepting the diversity while speaking without consideration depicts inconsiderate and unmindfulness. Achieving balance between listening and speaking is crucial for success.

### 2 How it is evident that <sup>the</sup> fool speaks and <sup>the</sup> wise listens

### 3 Why listening is considered as a trait of wise

- a) Self awareness is the consequence of inner speech (I think therefore I am) Rene Descartes ✓
- b) Listening fosters empathy and understanding (Travis Hirsch, Bond Theory) ✓
- c) Listening broader the vision for achieving success (social learning theory Albert Bandura) ✓

d) Listening helps to challenge conventional wisdom (Rosa Park & Galileo Galilei)

e) Democracy thrives on the principle of listening to people's voice (Elections)

f) Listening helps in Liaisoning (Indust water treaty by world bank)

g) Importance of silence in Religion (Mun vrat Hinduism Sanskrit, Islam about silence)

4) How speaking is associated to fools

a) Speaking Hinders mindfulness

b) Voicing one's concerns suppress other opinion (To the Light House Virginia Woolf)

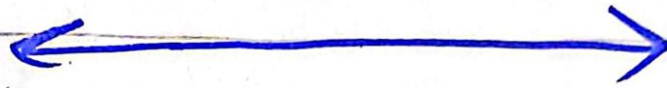
c) One way communication breeds autocracy (North Korea, Kim John un)

d) Promote interference and disrupting Peace (veto power in UNSC, Palestine issue)

Listening is not always the trait of wise, just as speaking often a trait of fools.

- a) People become good listeners due to glossophobia
- b) Leaders are good orators
- c) Certain professions demands speaking (marketing, Doctors, leaders, Politician, teachers)

## Conclusion



Listening cultivates Patience and broader perspective, fostering acceptance of diversity while speaking without consideration depicts inconsiderate and unmindfulness. Achieving balance between listening and speaking is crucial for success. The proverbial shepherd used to cry for help without any real danger. His miscalculation of words' power eroded his credibility. This not only diminished (his) trust in him but also led to significant economic losses. Hence it is considered

the fool speaks and the wise listens.  
The one who speaks (hast) is not considered insightful and sensitive. While the one who listens is considered as wise because listening breeds patience towards one's self and others. It helps in unlocking the door to self-awareness, and it also fosters empathy and understanding among people. It promotes the sense of compassion which helps others to open up in discussing ideas. It broadens the vision for success and helps to challenge the conventional wisdom. Moreover, democracy thrives on the principle of listening to others' voices. Listening to others also has importance in religious teachings. In contrast, speaking hinders mindfulness, suppresses others in expressing their opinions and it somehow depicts the autocracy which promotes intolerance. However, <sup>listening</sup> it is not always the trait of wise just as speaking

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often a trait of fool. As many people become good listeners due to low self-esteem or glossophobia. Moreover, speaking is ~~(trait)~~ the trait of leaders and ~~(many)~~ ~~certain~~ professions also demands speaking skill. Hence, balance between when to speak and when to listen is the crucial for success.

The fool speaks and the wise listen is evident from many ~~inter~~ perspective. The fool speaks for the purpose of speaking while wise speaks ~~for his~~ ~~the~~ purpose to speak. The one who speaks ~~are~~ normally considered as insensitive and inconsiderate towards other opinions. They lack tolerance to lend an ear to different perspective. The Plato shared his opinion on this that A wise man speaks because he has something to say; a fool because

has to say something. The wise person is always ready to learn things from ~~hollower~~ ~~person~~ perspective. He is tolerant towards different perspectives.

As Bruce Lee said once "A wise man learns more from a foolish question than a fool can learn from a wise answer."

Self-awareness is the consequence of inner speech. The one who pays attention to inner voices will easily attain the conscious. In order to unlock the conscious ~~behaviours~~ one needs to calm its chaos through meditation or staying silent. The French philosopher René Descartes presented the importance of paying attention to verbal thoughts through his first principle: I think therefore I am. This philosophy emphasizes the one can clear the hinders of doubt by reflecting on it. In of book,

The seven habits of highly effective people by Stephen Covey, he emphasize the importance of seeking to understand before seeking to be understood.

Moreover, listening fosters empathy and understanding among family members. If one is being listened it creates the sense of compassion. According to **Bond Theory** by **Travis Harchi** appropriate socialization creates a strong bond among the family members. It is based on attachment, commitment, involvement and beliefs. Once these are built properly it contributes towards the betterment of the society overall. When someone is encouraged to share one's views openly without any fear it create a strong bond. This strong bond helps in adolescence where youth has the high frequency of <sup>being</sup> deviant. However, listening can

Solve this problem even before it exists.

Furthermore, listening breeds patience which helps in broaden one's vision to accept the different perspective. It is also considered that patience and perseverance are key to success. In a book *The art of war* written by Sun Tzu, the writer explained that wise general wins before battle while ignorant general win only after the battle. This illustrate the idea of listening and understanding before acting can lead to the better outcomes. Moreover, *Social learning theory* by Albert Bandura also emphasises on the observational learning where one can learn through observation. Hence, the importance of listening is far more beneficial rather than reacting to a <sup>particular</sup> situation.



Addition to above all the listening helps in challenging the conventional wisdoms. The history is full of such incidents where the keen observers changed the course of history. Rosa Park refused to give up her bus seat <sup>to white man</sup> ignited the civil rights movement. Her silent protest helped to wipe out the racist behaviour or at least challenged the inhuman behaviour. Another example is Galileo Galilei through his observant behaviour he unlocked the mystery of universe where he presented that it is not geocentric rather it is heliocentric. Hence, Calmness helps to find the lacunas in existing phenomena and bridge the gap through logical reasoning.

The democracy itself is thriving on the principle of

of listening to the people voices.

The very core idea behind the success of developed countries is (due to the) based on the ground of democracy. The most evident example is the election system. Through this people chose their leaders and these leaders voiced the opinion of general public on different national and international platform.

This sense of compassion built trust among between people and governments.

As voicing people's narratives not only helps at domestic level but also at international level. Listening is the fundamental skills to liaison between the countries.

The international organization like United Nation security council and World Bank mediate

between parties to resolve issues in order to ~~maintain~~ maintain a peace and make the world a better place for every one.

The Indus water treaty in 1960 is the evidence where world Bank mediated between two countries Pakistan and India to resolve the water disputes by listening to their concerns.

many religion also emphasises on the importance of silence. Through maintaining silence one can hear others problems and give a better advice to cope such problem. Moreover, sometimes listening to someone's trial lighten the burden on the ~~the~~ heart.

In Hinduism, the Man Virat is mentioned in Sanskrit which explains the importance of silence as worship as it creates ease not only for one's self but also for others. 91

emphasizes on the principle that world is full of opinions and one less opinion is not going to harm the world.

Abu Huraira R.A narrated that prophet (PBUH) said, "whoever believes in God and the day of judgement should speak good or remain silent." Hence, it manifest the importance of silence.

However, speaking is often associated to fools as speaking hinders the mindfulness. speaking usually reflects the lack of tolerance and acceptance of idea.

In a <sup>william</sup> Shakespeare's play ~~The~~ Hamlet, the main character always remained in doubt because he always failed to consider the opinion of other. He remained in cage of self perceived reality and remained (always) eager to voice his (opinion) narrative. In the end his unminfulness led to (p. also) tragic death of

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of all family members. Hence being inconsiderate towards other opinions bring chaos.

Furthermore, voicing one's concern and leaving no room for others to express their views is not healthy for any relation. Either it is professional or domestic. **To the light House by Virginia Woolf** in this story Mrs. Ramsay is always concerned about family members and she neglected herself most of the time. Her excessive concerns towards family members created awkwardness in their relationship. Her concerns seems commanding and family members get offended for not having the freedom to voice their opinion. However, also for healthy relationship patience and acceptance is crucial.

Hence, speaking hinders other

opinion and promotes the autocracy.

As autocracy is quite opposite to the democracy, one authority claiming to lead all decision making

without involving other party. This principle is against the basic international law of human rights.

In North Korea, Kim John un is the ultimate leader, no one is allowed to question his authority in any regards. This depicts the one way communication while others are freedom is apprehended.

Moreover, voicing one's party concerns on the basis of power and neglecting others leads to intolerance and disrupt the peace process.

The United Nation Security Council

forward a resolution for cease fire in Palestine. 121 countries voted in favour while 14 countries were against the resolution. Hence, majority voted

USSR (now Russia) vetoed the resolution but still decision was made to reject the resolution due to (United Nations) USA veto power. Hence, using power to strangle majority voices is not justified.

However, listening is not always the trait of wise just as speaking often is the trait of fools. Sometimes people become the good listeners due to glossophobia. They lack confidence and low self esteem. The fear of being judged by other people hinders their speaking. Furthermore, personality type is also important in determining others' behaviour. People are good listeners because they are introverts by nature. They are shy and feel reluctant to communicate with others. Hence, listening is not always the trait of wise sometimes people act in certain ways due developed

patterns.

Furthermore, speaking is not always the ~~associated~~ with fools. As the ~~trait~~ of good leaders is good orator. He/she possess the power of influence other through ~~speeches~~ or the persuasion.

According to **Trait Theory** by **Gordon Allport**, that leaders are born they have the assertive personality and influence people through persuasion. Hence, leaders are considered as the intellectuals of the society. A leader is the role model and bring revolution in the society.

**Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah** was founder of Pakistan, used to convince people through logical reasoning and effective delivery of speeches.



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Additionally, certain professions demands speaking skills. However, undermining the speaking can never be a fruitful. In marketing a marketer must be fluent in speech and should effectively deliver the message. Similarly, a doctor can give a better advice to patients than by speaking. Furthermore, a politician, teacher, leader and motivational speaker must excel the communication skills in order to effective delivery of speech. Hence, balance between speaking and listening can reap the beneficial fruits.

The underlying concept behind (that) The fool speaks and wise listen is the consideration and mindfulness of an individual. The one who is sensitive and insightful always

ready to listen to others opinion.  
On contrary, insecure and insensitive  
people won't let others to communicate  
their opinion. "When the fool

speaks the wise listens but when the  
wise speaks the fool argues."

(Noam Chomsky). However, both  
speaking and listening are important  
for effective communication. Hence,  
one should be smart enough

to know when to speak and when  
to listen. Be shapeless and formless

like water, adapting yourself  
according to the situation (Bruce  
Lee).