

ExamPDFHub

UGC NET PAPER 1

Communication

Complete Concept Notes — Models, Barriers & Quick Revision

Weightage	5–7 Questions • 10–14% of Paper 1
Difficulty	Easy – Medium, mostly definitional
Coverage	Full syllabus — 12 sections, exam-focused

Prepared as part of the ExamPDFHub UGC NET Paper 1 chapter-by-chapter series

Why This Unit Matters

Communication is a high-weightage, highly conceptual unit of Paper 1 — nearly every question is definitional or classification-based (which model introduced what, which theorist proposed which concept, which category a barrier belongs to). **Models of Communication and Barriers to Communication** are, between them, responsible for the largest share of repeated questions across past papers — master those two sections first.

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| 6. Classroom Communication | 12. Glossary of Key Terms |

1 Meaning, Nature and Definitions

1.1 Meaning

The word **Communication** is derived from the Latin word “**Communis**” meaning “to share” or “to make common.” Communication is the process of transmitting information, ideas, feelings, and meanings from one person or group to another through a commonly understood system of signs, symbols, or behaviours.

Key definitions (verbatim recall value — these appear as direct MCQ options):

- **Wilbur Schramm:** "Communication is the process of establishing commonness or oneness of thought between a sender and receiver."
- **Keith Davis:** "Communication is the process of passing information and understanding from one person to another."
- **Louis Allen:** "Communication is the sum total of all the things one person does when he wants to create understanding in the mind of another."
- **C.G. Brown:** "Communication is a process by which information is transmitted between individuals and/or organisations so that an understandable response results."

1.2 Nature / Characteristics of Communication

- **Process:** continuous, dynamic, ongoing — not a single event
- **Two-way:** effective communication requires sending AND receiving, with feedback
- **Purposeful:** every act has intent — to inform, persuade, entertain, or instruct
- **Universal:** a human activity found in every society and culture
- **Symbolic:** uses symbols — words, gestures, images, sounds
- **Contextual:** the same message can mean different things in different situations

- **Irreversible:** once communicated, a message cannot be fully “taken back”
- **Inevitable:** we cannot NOT communicate — even silence communicates something
- **Transactional:** sender and receiver influence, and are influenced by, each other simultaneously

MNEMONIC — Mnemonic for the nature of communication — “**P2P USCiDiT**”: Process, 2-way, Purposeful, Universal, Symbolic, Contextual, irreversible, Dynamic, inevitable, Transactional.

2 Process of Communication

2.1 Elements of the Communication Process

Element	Definition
Source / Sender	Initiates the message and encodes it (e.g. a teacher explaining a concept)
Encoding	Converting ideas/thoughts into transmittable symbols (words, images, gestures)
Message	The actual information, idea, or feeling being communicated
Channel / Medium	The pathway the message travels through — speech, radio, letter, email, TV
Decoding	Receiver interprets and assigns meaning to the received symbols
Receiver	The person or group for whom the message is intended
Feedback	Receiver's response — confirms the message was understood
Noise / Interference	Anything that distorts, disrupts, or prevents accurate transmission
Context	The environment/situation in which communication occurs

2.2 The Communication Cycle

The cycle is circular and dynamic: **Sender** → **Encoding** → **Message** → **Channel** → **Decoding** → **Receiver** → **Feedback** → **Sender**. Noise can interfere at any stage of this cycle.

MOST IMPORTANT FOR NET — Noise can occur at **any** stage, not just during transmission: **Physical** noise (external sounds — channel level), **Psychological** noise (prejudice, emotions — encoding/decoding level), **Semantic** noise (word-meaning confusion — encoding/decoding level), **Technical** noise (equipment failure — channel level).

3 Types of Communication

3.1 By Direction and Formality

Type	Description
One-way	Sender → Receiver only; no feedback; fast but less accurate (TV, newspaper, traditional lecture)

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