

# Semiotics about the brand as well as its

[Business](#), [Industries](#)



Semiotics involves many different techniques, where consumers can identify a brand due to the sign, symbol, colour etc. It is clear enough that much of marketing communications consists of signs which we (consumers) interpret from advertising, packaging, or even the setup of the store or its location. “ Semiotic is concerned with exploring the links between signs and symbols”.

Consumer’ seem use shortcuts to trigger a certain experience, culture, social preferences etc. Shortcuts are simplified as they trigger a sign which brings a consumer’s interpretation. Consumers own experience could possibly relate to a certain colour, job, sign etc., which is triggered when seen.

When we think about a specific season, for example winter, it is automatically linked to the colour brown due to leaves and the colour itself being very simple (Persuasive Signs 2017). Within the project research, semiotics links to certain bases of advertising effects impacted on the consumer. When consumers purchase a product, majority of consumers seem to become attracted to the product because of its advertising as well as reviews. Within my collected research 10 out of 18 participants stated that social media does influence their purchasing decisions, which helps to answer one part of the project question “ Does advertising effect consumer’s purchasing decisions”? Prior to the topic question, consumer purchasing decisions are based on their own opinions of the brand and how they perceive it towards competitors, which expands on to loyalty towards certain brands. Semiotic will allow consumers to remember certain brands, or even certain things they like about the brand as well as its location, which is consumer’s personal perception to how that brand has specialised itself to

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the consumer for remembrance as well as word of mouth. The interactive communication model The interactive communication model which is also known as the convergence model deals with the exchange of ideas and message which take place both ways from the sender to the receiver, vice versa.

The communication model is understood to take place between two human beings, as well as machines (Rodgers, S. and Thorson, E. The Interactive Advertising Model 2013). The model itself includes components transferring such as: Encoder-Source-Decoder: The person who the message has originally come from is the source, which is known as the encoder.

This second source is known as the encoder as well as the decoder. The source will act as encoder whilst sending the message and as a decoder whilst receiving a message back. Source two is then known as the decoder, as they receive the message as well as originate another message. Message: Throughout the communication with the encoder and the decoder, the information throughout is the message used for interaction.

Once the message is received to the decoder, another message is sent back which is known as feedback from the original message. Field of experience: The field of experience is the experience as well as the knowledge possessed, which will affect the message formation and interpretation. This will usually affect the decoder, as they are receiving the message. The interactive communication model affects consumers purchasing behaviour deeply through the messages they received, via advertisement as well as social

media. When we look at messages, this could possibly be linked to hidden messages within advertisement (The Models of Communication 2017).

**Public Relations** Public relations are a theory which is used to predict the effects of processes. The importance of public relations theory is to give an understanding to public relation practitioners of how public relations works. For example, consumers, will need knowledge of different jeans available, as well as the best suitable pair for them before making their purchase decisions. Public relations are the best theory to guide consumers of a communication plan, tactic, strategies, or programs (Public Relations Theories 2017). There are four public relations models' by Grunig's and Hunt are: Press agent or publicity model- This is a form of one way communication.

The press agent model uses persuasion and manipulation to influence audiences to behave as the organisation desires. **Public Information model-** The public information model uses press releases as well as other one way communication techniques to distribute the organisational information. **Two-way asymmetrical model-** The two-way asymmetrical model refers to two-way communication uses persuasion as well as manipulation for the audience to be influenced. This is for the audience to behave as the organisation desires. Two-way communication however will not use any type of research to understand how stakeholders feel about the company.

**Two-way symmetrical model-** This model uses communication to negotiate with the consumer, resolve conflict and promote mutual understanding as well as respecting the organisation and its stakeholders. There are of course similarities as well as differences between the four models by Grunig's and

Hunt. All four models use different methods to intrigue their customer and communicate with them. This will either be one way communication (Press agent or publicity model and Public information model), or two-way communication (Two way asymmetrical and two-way symmetrical model). Forms of communication are dynamic for organisations to maintain a relationship with its consumers as well as keeping a level of interaction where organisations can easily contact the specified company.

Organisations such as Forever 21, Levi's, New look etc, will maintain a relationship with consumers through emails and text messages. As well as this they will provide discount codes/ vouchers to new or existing consumers, which will maintain the bond between the company and the consumer (Public Relations or Advertising 2017). The excellence theory The excellence theory has been explained as the value of public relations to companies based purely on social responsibility of managerial decisions as well as its quality of stakeholder relationships. Relation to the theory, organisations will only become effective by solving problems as well as satisfying the goals of its stakeholders. For organisations to behave within a certain manner which is acceptable to society, they must identify the public who are affected by potential organisational decisions, as well as making decisions which are suitable for their needs. Organisations will then communicate symmetrically with the public, taking in to account both interest of the public and the organisation. Good relationships between the public and its stakeholder's is seen to be of value as this reduced the cost of litigation, regulation, legislation and negative publicity.

The research question links the excellence theory to both the industry as well as its consumers. It is vital for a brand to remain a relationship with its consumer. The stronger the bond, the stronger chances of them remaining loyal to the brand.

If consumers feel they are treated as a unique customer, they are most likely to recommend the certain brand to potential customers (family/friends). The excellence theory helps organisations to take consumer thoughts into account whilst making certain decisions, to be able to solve consumer quarrels. The different types of social media Relationship Networks- Social media is best known for all its social network sites used by many different consumers around the globe. Relationship networks are not the oldest types of social media; however, they are the most defining. The network sites were firstly used as public mini-sites, which was then used as profiles asking for all consumer information (8 Types of Social Media and How Each Can Benefit Your Business 2017). Relationship networks enable consumers to keep all communication within one place, which can easily be accessed further on.

This can be varied from professional relationships on a site such as LinkedIn, which helps to find a new career or connect with professionals in a specific field. Sites such as Facebook however, could be used to find singles users within a person's own area. As well as consumers, brands can use network sites to connect with consumers on a personal level, most organisations now have a Facebook page, Twitter account and Instagram account to reach out to their audience. Consumers also have a place to contact the organisation with queries. Brands such as Levi's and New look do have a Facebook,

Twitter page as well as Instagram where they promote new products as well as reach put to their desired customers. Media sharing Networks- Media sharing networks is described as the primary type of media.

The main purpose of Facebook and Twitter is its sharing images and videos; however, the rest contains mainly contents of texts. Sites such as Instagram and Flickr, focus purely on imagery. Users will go through the processing of unloading, editing as well as choosing a caution before uploading. Online Reviews- Reviews are vital when finding a place to visit, or somewhere to dine. As well as this when purchasing a product consumers always seem to check reviews. Most consumers consult the internet along with friends for a review on any product. Discussion Forums- Although discussion forums is one of the oldest types of social media, they are still used to discuss as well as collect research. Users can take part within a discussion form on social network platforms such as Facebook and Twitter.

This can be done using their real name or through an anonymous post. However, it is preferred a brand should not do that, as the brand's public image as well as its reputation is at stake. If a brand wishes to join a discussion, it should be aware to users (consumers) of what brand has joined, as well as that the brand which has joined could possibly promote the business if relatable to the discussion content. Social publishing platforms- Social media platforms allow long and short term written content which is shared with other users who are registered to the site. When blogging, majority of bloggers share their content on Tumblr as well as Facebook and Twitter.

Users on these platform sites are highly influenced by a popular blogger's thoughts. When we think of fashion bloggers, consumers are influenced within their purchasing decisions through what a blogger has recommended. However, this can sometimes be a promotional technique for the brand.

Bookmarking sites- Bookmarking sites are used to store links which user's may want to share or access later.

Social media sites such as StumbleUpon, Pinterest, and Flipboard are where users collect content from the internet and save it upon those platforms.

They can be private or public, as well as shared with other users.

Bookmarking sites will show suggestable content relating to content