

Conversations
between men and
women are a form of
cross-cultural
communication



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Then, using examples from your own experience, explain whether you agree or disagree with this thesis. My thesis: Though women and men communicate differently, they can understand and communicate with each other deeply. In her essay "Sex, Lies and Conversation," Tannen says that women and men communicate differently so it is very hard to understand each other. However, I believe that women and men can understand deeply. One of her points is that men talk more outside of home, but women are more talkative at home.

I don't agree with this point, because it does not apply to people that I know. The second point is that women tend to talk focused on one topic, while men tend to talk about various topics. I don't agree with this because it depends on each person's personality and character, not on their genders. I don't agree with Tannen's argument that outside of home, men tend to talk a lot and women talk less. For example, in the beginning of her essay, Tannen writes about one couple, "She's the talker in our family," which shows that the husband tries to tell how talkative his wife is at home.

Furthermore there is the stereotype that men are usually quiet at home and they do not like to listen to their wives rather than the sound of the television. People usually get closer as they start to know each other. However, not all of the couples are the same in this way. In my experience, my parents are one of the opposite examples against Tannen's point. That is, my mother, who is very talkative. She speaks a lot whenever she is at home or outside, the place does not matter. In contrast to my mother, my father does not like talking.

He is very calm and serious. I have often seen that my father does not talk as much as he listens when he meets friends, relatives or customers. He tends to listen whenever he is at home, work or a party. In addition, when I had the chance to have a conversation about my future husband with one of my teachers, she told me how happy she was about her husband and not having any struggles with him. I wondered and asked what her strategy was. She said because they had a great relationship and enjoyed their conversations everyday at home.

I also don't agree with Tannen's second argument that women like to focus on one topic, while men tend to talk about various topics. In her essay, Tannen explains that " The girls in my study tended to talk at length about one topic, but boys tended to jump from topic to topic. " I admit this difference, but I don't think all men and women tend to talk like this. People tend to talk in different ways. It depends on their personality, the ways they are used to speaking or their occupations, and so on. For example, people who are consultants, speakers, or pastors tend to focus on one topic whether they are men or not.

Also people who like to think very seriously and carefully, are likely to focus on one topic longer rather than different topic at once. My example shows how Tannen's point does not apply to the people that I know. For instance, my pastor, who is a man, likes to focus on one topic. When I talked about my problem, he listened carefully and he gave me solutions to help me get through it better. When he tried to give me a solution, he started to talk about his problem which was similar to my problem in his past. I listened to his story for about 20 minutes.

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I realized that men can talk while focusing on one topic. Another example is about my boyfriend, who is very talkative. He likes to talk more than I do, and I have never experienced that he moves to another topic because he listens to me until I finish talking. When I have a problem, he is very willing to listen and we continues to talk about it. I believe that both men and women can understand each other and communicate deeply. The relationship between women and men is complicated. Yes, we have different sexes so there are common communication traits of each.

Also, there exists men and women's own tendencies when they communicate, but not everyone follow these tendencies. Communication between men and women is not a kind of " Cross-cultural communication. " However, if men and women do not accept their differences and they do not try to communicate with each other, they would feel like each man or woman comes from different planets. We shouldn't make excuse that conversation is difficult because we are different sexes, It definitely depends on one's willingness to hear and the effort to understand the opposite sex.