

Nonverbal listening patterns essay



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Nonverbal Listening Patterns January 5, 2007 was the day Linda and I met for a cup of coffee. I had known her for close to half a year and had really come to like her. By this time I realized I never was tense whenever I talked to her and that I could use the date to declare my love for her.

I was determined to find out if Linda really liked me. I pulled the chair for her and she sat as I took the other on the opposite side of the coffee table. I looked at her in the eyes; she looked backed at me momentarily and then smiled as she looked down. I smiled too. Whatever conversation we were going to have was going to be more than just flirtation. I knew she liked watching cartoons so I raised the topic. She raised her cup of coffee and took a sip. I did the same in synchrony.

So far everything was moving along smoothly. I stretched out my hand across the table, reached out to hers and looking at her straight in the eyes said, " You're stunningly beautiful, Linda. " She gently held the palm of my hand with her both hands and responded, " Wow, thanks, am really flattered. I had not taken my eyes off her by this time and for a moment I thought may be she liked me just as a friend. When I saw her off to the doorsteps of her house I looked out for the signs again. She told me she had a good time with me. I stepped closer and bent my head towards her.

She met me half way and our lips touched as we kissed intimately. Through out the conversation I mirrored her behavior. I touched her when she touched me. I kissed her upon the observation that she bent her head towards mine. I, however, kind off missed a positive cue when she fidgeted with her earrings. Linda was beautiful to look at, but sometimes I got carried

away that I didn't notice the embarrassment in her face as she looked down when I ended up locking eyes with her. A totally different conversation took place between me and my girlfriend's dad a few years ago. I didn't know he didn't like the idea of her daughter being in a romantic relationship.

The conversation happened at her father's house in the living room. As I stepped into the room her father's eyes stuck on me. I smiled and stole a glance at my girlfriend and then again at her father. My smile wasn't contagious enough because he didn't return it. That was unusual of him. I stretched out my arm to greet him. His grip wasn't as firm as usual.

I felt something was wrong but I couldn't figure out it had something to do with me. I began to feel uneasy. As I walked past him towards where my girlfriend sat, he grabbed my shirt and pulled me down to his couch. I found myself seated.

With his voice gaining pitch gradually he said to me, " So you've been hitting on my daughter lately, ha? " I began to sweat and panicked. He grabbed me by my shirt again and shouted, " What the heck do you want to do with my daughter? He continued to yell at me and say things that could only be heard by dogs at such a high pitch. The wrinkles on the upper part of his face told it all.

He was mad at me. All that time I looked down in a combination of fear and embarrassment. I tried to establish eye contact with him but his " popping out" eyes stopped me.

I think I did well to treat the frown in his face as I entered the living room as a sign of trouble. However, had I been a good listener I'd have traced the source of trouble to myself when he gave me a cold handshake. His unusually shrilled voice towards me would have been a good indicator of annoyance. I should have explained myself or responded in a way to calm him down (BNET, 2009). In the future I'd try to listen carefully to the messages conveyed through voice, space, eye conduct and gestures so I can respond accordingly (Segal, 2009). References BNET. (2009). Understanding Nonverbal Communication.

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