

How to be...

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The metaphorical nature of language is essential to growing our range of expression. We refer to the "memory" of a computer, and by using this metaphor it becomes easier to understand and communicate. On the other hand, this use of metaphor can also limit our thinking. The sun "going down" is a small example. We know intellectually that it is the planet turning which causes this apparent effect, but our language creates the

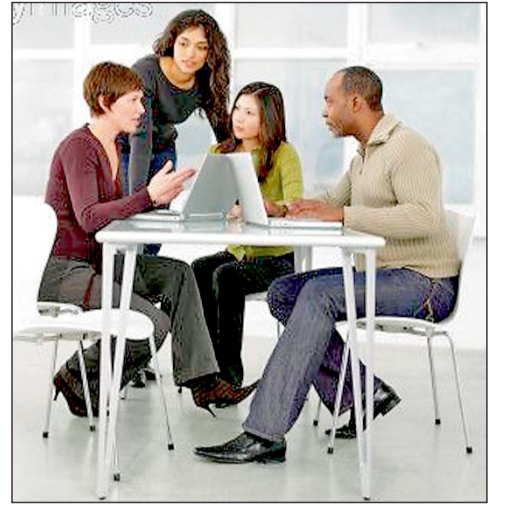
impression that the sun goes away each night.

Now, if we stop and really consider that the sun never sets, all sorts of new ideas come to mind. Solar panels in space would always be in the sun, and they could beam electricity down to us by way of microwave transmission. Someday, a "nightless farm" could fly around the Earth at a thousand miles-per-hour, growing vegetables in 24 hours-per-day sunlight. These ideas may not be new, but they only occurred after mentally questioning the idea that the sun goes down.

Finally, a deep thinker recognizes the representative nature of language in general. Words are only meant to point at things in reality. They are not things by themselves. While this may seem obvious, it is forgotten in common discourse. A man says that corporations are evil, for example, and another jumps to "prove" this idea wrong, rather than trying to see what the first man is pointing at with his words.

You may recall the ancient puzzle called "Zeno's Paradox," which "proved" that motion is impossible.

Because of the perfect logic with which it was demonstrated, some chose to believe that what we see as motion is an illusion. Much later, philosophers, mathematicians and physicists found acceptable challenges to the paradox, but the real lesson here is that logic isn't infallible because language is imperfect, and if we are to more fully understand the world, we have to allow for that. A deep thinker, then, uses words as the valuable but limited tools they are, while trying not to let words use him. free-articles-zone.com



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Making a great ...

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Make sure your grooming is appropriate and helps make you feel "the part". Appropriate dressing and grooming help make a good first impression and also help you feel "the part", and so feel more calm and confident. Add all of this up and you are well on your way to creating a good first impression.

A Word about Individuality

The good news is you can usually create a good impression without total conformity or losing your individuality. Yes, to make a good first impression you do need to "fit in" to some degree. But it all goes back to being appropriate for the situation. If in a business setting, wear appropriate business attire. If at a formal evening social event, wear appropriate evening attire. And express your individuality appropriately within that context.

A Winning Smile!

"Smile and the world smiles too."* So there's nothing like a smile to create a good first impression. A warm and confident smile will put both you and the other person at ease. So smiling is a winner when it comes to great first impressions. But don't go overboard with this - people who take this too far can seem insincere and smarmy, or can be seen to be "lightweights".

(*Author Unknown)

Be Open and Confident

When it comes to making the first impression, body language as well as appearance speaks much louder than words.

Use your body language to project appropriate confidence and self-assurance. Stand tall, smile (of course), make eye contact, greet with a firm handshake. All of this will help you project confidence and encourage both you and the other person feel better at ease.

Small Talk Goes a Long Way...

Conversations are based on verbal give and take. It may help you to prepare questions you have for the person you are meeting for the first time beforehand. Or, take a few minutes to learn something about the person you meet for the first time before you get together. For instance, does he play golf? Does she work with a local charitable foundation?

Is there anything that you know of that you have in common with the person you are meeting? If so, this can be a great way to open the conversation and to keep it flowing.

Be Positive

Your attitude shows through in everything you do. Project a positive attitude, even in the face of criticism or in the case of nervousness. Strive to learn from your meeting and to contribute appropriately, maintaining an upbeat manner and a smile.

Be Courteous And Attentive

It goes without saying that good manners and polite, attentive and courteous behavior help make a good first impression. In fact, anything less can ruin the one chance you have at making that first impression. So be on your best behavior!

One modern manner worth mentioning is "turn off your mobile phone". What first impression will you create if you are already speaking to someone other than the person you are meeting for the first time? Your new acquaintance deserves 100% of your attention. Anything less and you'll create a less than good first impression.

Key Points

You have just a few seconds to make a good first impression and it's almost impossible ever to change it. So it's worth giving each new encounter your best shot. Much of what you need to do to make a good impression is common sense. But with a little extra thought and preparation, you can hone your intuitive style and make every first impression not just good but great.

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