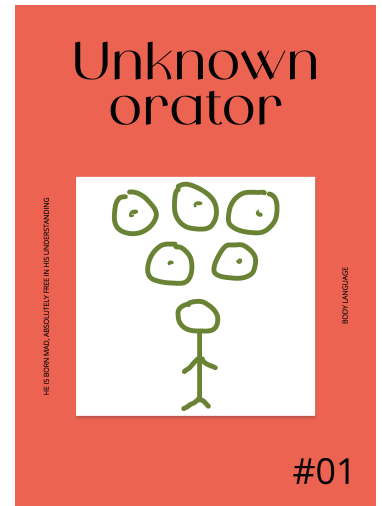


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Author: Mykola Ovcharov

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ANNOTATION

This article examines gesticulation as a means of overcoming the implicitness of speech — one of the fundamental properties of human communication. The author analyses the nature of implicit gaps that arise from the desire to economise linguistic effort and the reliance on shared context between interlocutors, and demonstrates how nonverbal means — hand movements, facial expressions, and posture — allow speakers to supplement, clarify, and illustrate what remains unsaid. The cultural variability of gesticulation is addressed separately as a factor requiring the adaptation of nonverbal communication to the specifics of the audience, particularly an international one. The article establishes gesticulation not as an auxiliary element of speech, but as an independent meaning-making tool that expands the speaker's communicative capacity and facilitates genuine mutual understanding.

KEYWORDS

gesticulation, implicitness of speech, nonverbal communication, semantic gaps, cultural context, oratory, communicative barrier, intercultural communication, expressive speech.

Human communication is a complex and multifaceted process that goes far beyond the simple exchange of words. We often underestimate the role of non-verbal means of communication, especially gestures, in conveying our thoughts and ideas. However, it is gestures that often become the bridge that helps to overcome implicit gaps in speech and achieve true understanding.

Implicitness as a property of language

One of the fundamental characteristics of human language is its implicitness, that is, the presence of hidden, unexpressed meanings. As native speakers, we have a common

experience, knowledge, and cultural context, so we often do not resort to literal explanations of every aspect of the utterance. Much of the information remains “between the lines,” and it is up to the listener to decode it accurately.

This is explained by the desire to save linguistic effort and optimize the communicative process. Instead of verbalizing all the details each time, we rely on the context we share with the interlocutor, previous knowledge, and logical connections. This approach makes it possible to simplify and speed up the exchange of ideas, especially when it comes to everyday, familiar topics.

Gesture as a means of overcoming implicit gaps

However, implicit speech can be a barrier to effective communication, especially when people have different backgrounds, come from different cultural backgrounds, or are discussing complex, abstract concepts. In such cases, verbal means may not be enough to accurately convey a thought, and this is where gestures come in handy.

Gestures are a powerful tool of nonverbal communication, which allow us to supplement, clarify, and illustrate what we are saying. With the help of hand movements, facial expressions, and posture, we can convey those nuances of meaning that are difficult to express in words. Gestures help fill in implicit gaps, make our speech more expressive, understandable, and convincing.

Let's imagine that we are describing a certain object or phenomenon. Instead of resorting to long and complex verbal explanations, we can simply show the shape, size, location of this object in space using gestures. Or, talking about our emotions, we can not only name them, but also express them with facial expressions, intonation, body movements. This way our message will become more holistic and multidimensional.

In addition, gestures make it possible to attract and hold the listener's attention, highlight key points of the speech, set the rhythm and dynamics of the speech. Well-chosen gestures make our communication more lively, interactive and exciting, which contributes to better assimilation of information by the audience.

Nonverbal communication and cultural context

It is worth noting that nonverbal language, like verbal language, has its own cultural characteristics and conventions. The same gestures can have different meanings in different countries and communities, sometimes even the opposite. Therefore, when using gestures to overcome implicitness, it is important to take into account the cultural

context and adapt your nonverbal communication to the audience.

For example, if you are speaking to an international audience, you should avoid gestures that could be ambiguously interpreted or offensive to people from certain cultures.

Instead, you should favor more universal, archetypal movements and expressions that are intuitively understandable and do not cause misunderstandings.

Nonverbal communication is an art that requires practice, introspection, and empathy. By developing our gestural skills, we expand our arsenal of expressive means, learn to convey our thoughts more accurately and with greater nuance, and overcome communication barriers. And this, in turn, makes us more effective and persuasive speakers, enabling us to find common ground with any audience.

Therefore, gestures are not just an additional element of speech, but a powerful tool for overcoming its implicitness, filling semantic gaps and achieving true understanding. Realizing the importance of non-verbal communication and actively mastering body language and gestural expression, we make our communication richer, more expressive and convincing. And only a harmonious combination of verbal and non-verbal principles will give us the opportunity to fully realize our potential as speakers and communicators.

Red flags:

- Ignoring the role of gestures in overcoming the implicitness of speech
- Using overly specific, culturally conditioned gestures when communicating with an international audience
- Inconsistency of nonverbal signals with the verbal message, which creates communicative dissonance

Blue flags:

- Conscious use of gestures to illustrate and clarify a verbal message
- Adapting nonverbal language to the cultural context and audience characteristics
- Developing the skills of "reading" the interlocutor's non-verbal signals for a more accurate understanding of implicit meanings
- Finding a balance between verbal and non-verbal means of communication to achieve maximum clarity and persuasiveness