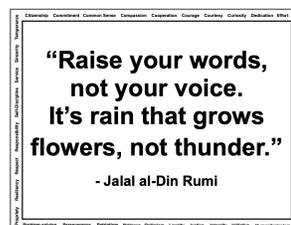


Communication: ' How It's SAID' in Action"

Brainstorm words that may be used instead of 'SAID' when speaking and writing that will give a more specific description. In pairs create a list of at least 10 verbs that might be used instead of 'said'. i.e. sputtered, declared, etc.

Join another pair, share lists, and add any new words. Join another group of 4 and repeat. The end result will be a list to be posted in the room for use in speaking and writing. Encourage learners to continue to add words to the display.

- "Raise your words, not your voice. It's rain that grows flowers, not thunder." - Jalal al-Din Rumi



Extensions on Communication Instruction:

Goal: To emphasize the importance of basic communication skills such as tone of voice/inflection, body language, etc.

1. Using the list made in the first section, write individual verbs on slips of paper or note cards and put in a container. Select a dialogue sentence or phrase from a book or have learners write their own. Instruct learners to draw a 'said' word from the container and say the dialogue sentence in the way that the 'said' word indicates. Have the rest of the learners see if they can guess which 'said' word is being used.
2. Different Voices Activity – May be used with "Tone of Voice" poem
3. "I Don't Think So!" - two strategies for, "It's all in the way you say it!", great to demonstrate the importance of tone of voice, inflections, and body language
4. Pass It On Videos - 30 sec. to 2 min. videos - Select one of the short videos. Before viewing tell learners as they watch the video the first time, they are to

think of 'Said' words that might be used to describe how the characters are saying their dialogue. View the video once, discuss possibilities, and then view again stopping at appropriate times to discuss their suggestions for a descriptive 'said' verb synonym. i.e. [Haircut](#) - 1:00 min.

5. Identify a communication skill to be analyzed and review characteristics. View one of the videos analyzing for this skill.

- Body language
- Tone of voice/Inflection
- Posture
- Eye contact

6. Picture books or small sections of other fiction books - Select a paragraph or small section in the story where there is dialogue. Identify the verbs describing how the character is talking. Rewrite a paragraph or part of the book substituting other verbs ('said' words) to change the meaning of what is being said. Discuss how important these 'said' words are in conveying the story. Extension: Role play sections using the different verbs and add in different tone of voice, inflection, and body language.

[Dialogue Words: Other Words for 'Said'](#) - Article giving 3 specific tips on writing dialogue