


Tips for communicating

Contributing to discussion is important for learning. When you are using digital platforms others can't always hear you and see you and clues that help our understanding are absent.



1 **Be clear and concise.** 



2 **Avoid block capitals**
Using upper case looks as if you are shouting and it makes your post harder for some people to read.


3 **Mind your language**


Participants in digital discussions are from all over the world, so avoid slang words or local phrases and use straight-forward language.





4 **One point per post**
It makes it easier for everyone to follow the discussion. 

6 **Allow plenty of time**
Some people will be in a different time zone from you. All of us have other commitments. 

5 **Yes or No? Or maybe?**
Avoid getting a yes/no response when you ask a question. Phrase them carefully and make your questions open ended. 

7 **Support what you say**
Offer good reasons and supporting evidence. Refer to the sources you have used. 

8 **Pause before you post**
Critique ideas not people. Reflect on your wording. 

9 **Keep it relevant – make sure you are on topic**
If you want to discuss a new or different topic, set up a separate thread. 

10 **Be respectful**
Support others. Value contributions. Keep it safe. No rants or tantrums. 