

# Attentive Listening Is Necessary

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with HARRY KARN

You no doubt knew, before we told you, how important it is to learn to read well. But now we're going to tell you something that probably will surprise you.

A student gets only about one-fourth of his facts and ideas from reading.

He gets the other three-fourths from listening.

Yet, the listening skills of most students are slight, in many cases non-existent. Today's children are told to "Pay attention!" but, alas, not how to pay attention.

No more than 10 per cent of your thinking space is needed to hear what teacher is saying. What happens with the remaining 90 per cent can make the difference between "A" and "F."

Either you consciously choose thoughts to fill this space, or it will fill up with noises, music, fear, hunger pangs, and other snips and scraps too weird to describe.

Here are some suggestions that will help you listen efficiently:

1. Fill your thinking space beforehand with a pattern of ideas related to the lecture.

Skim the day's assignment before class and listen carefully to the teacher's introductory remarks. A good teacher always explains briefly in the beginning what he is going to talk about.

Twenty minutes of preparation before attending class will save you an hour and will increase your ability to understand the unfolding of new ideas and new laws. It will improve your note-taking ability and help you use the class period as a study period. It will cut the overall amount of work required to achieve mastery in any given course.

2. As the teacher talks, think



of how the points fit into the general pattern and into what you already know about the subject.

3. If an idea comes up that doesn't seem to fit, ask a question about it.

Glen tried to listen carefully in high school physics class. But he reported he found it difficult to follow the teacher and needed to spend too much time on the textbook after each class and before the lecture.

Missing Man Found Dead

GRANTS PASS (AP)—A Grants Pass city employee, missing since he failed to return home from a trip to a grocery Saturday evening, was found dead Sunday under an old car in a city storage lot.

Just why Albert W. Meyer, 49, had gone to the lot was not clear. It was an area where old, abandoned automobiles were left. It appeared he had been jacking up one of the cars and a block of cement under the jack had rolled. Meyer was pinned under the left fender.

fore going ahead with his homework. We suggested that he read ahead in the textbook, even though he might have some question about points discussed there. He did this and made a delightful discovery. He could follow the lecture. His questions, formed while reading the book in advance, were automatically answered during the class period—because he was on the lookout for the answers.

4. Sometimes it helps to play a little game. We have invented one called "Anticipation."

Here is an example that shows how you play it:

Herman was failing in all subjects. He was a bright boy, but classroom lectures never got through to him. We suggested he listen with the aim of guessing what the professor was going to say next.

"How in the world can I do that?"

"Try."

He tried. A week later he came in to report a grade of "A" on a philosophy test and to tell us: "Now I understand the trick."

He had learned to trick his mind into sponging up and organizing the lecture. The trick depends on a simple fact of psychology. Your mind can't keep telling you what the speaker is going to say next without first organizing what he has been saying.

5. Another game that produces good results is one we call "What else?"

The rule of play is to keep asking yourself, as you listen to the lecture:

"What else would I like to know about this subject?"

This game forces the mind to organize the facts and ideas of the lecture along with the things you learned previously into a pattern that will reveal a gap in the total picture.

6. Should the lecture fail to

supply the answer to any question thus raised, the next step, of course, is to go find the information on your own from a book. There is another learning art closely associated with listening—the art of note taking.

The most powerful driving force toward a clear understanding of a lecture is the act of condensing a speaker's remarks into a short statement in your own words. This is the key to taking notes. Notes should usually consist of nothing more than these statements in your own words.

The big mistake most students make in taking notes is that of trying to write down everything the speaker says. This is unnecessary, harmful, and for most persons impossible. Too many notes interfere with listening.

Your notes should represent only those materials not adequately covered in the textbook. They should be brief.

They should cover only the vital points.

After a class period in which you have taken notes, rewrite them. This is an excellent review of the material covered. Amplify your notes and make them a major part of your review for tests.

As you see, the art of listening consists of quite a bit more than merely keeping the wax cleaned out of the ears.

Let's glance quickly over what we have been saying:

1. Read the lesson in advance.

2. Fill the points of the lecture into the framework of knowledge you already possess.

3. Ask questions about questionable points.

4. Anticipate what teacher will say next.

5. Ask questions to develop new ideas.

6. Find answers to questions the lecture leaves unanswered.

7. Make notes brief and to the point in your own words.

(Tomorrow: How to organize your thoughts.)

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A BENEFIT DINNER, to help finance a trip by the Klamath Union High School a cappella choir and string orchestra to Spokane during the spring vacation, will be served Monday at the KUHS cafeteria. A number of local grocers are donating food for the project. Among them are Norman Duffy and Dick Hicks, left. Others pictured are, from left, Mrs. Philip Detroit, Mrs. Lola Spicher and J. W. Perkins, parents who are helping plan fund-raising activities.

## Workshop Is Damaged

A garage-workshop at the Don Tarrant home, 935 Alandale Street, damaged a portion of the home, received considerable damage from fire Monday morning.

City firemen were called at 9:45 a.m. They said combustible materials near a wood stove was responsible for the blaze. Tools and other contents were destroyed or damaged.

In other activity since Saturday night, city firemen were called to the home of Mrs. Jack Hawkins at 4:17 a.m. Monday. An oil stove exploded and damaged the home with soot, said firemen.

And at 8:10 a.m. Sunday, they answered an alarm at the Klamath Lutheran Church. A motor on a gas heater became overheated, they said. No damage resulted.

## Veterinarians Pick Officers

PORTLAND (AP)—The Oregon Veterinary Medicine Association is headed by Dr. Ray Storey, who was elected at the weekend meeting of the group in Portland. Other officers: Dr. S. E. McGough, Pendleton, president-elect, and Dr. O. H. Muth, Corvallis, secretary-treasurer.

Bears are short-sighted due to their habit of feeding with their noses close to the ground.

## Parents Stage Benefit For Student Musicians

Parents of Klamath Union High School music students hope to assist their youngsters financially during their forthcoming trip to Spokane with proceeds from a public ham and turkey dinner to be served next Monday evening in the KUHS cafeteria.

The musicians, young men and women of the KUHS string orchestra, the choir, girls' glee club and Madrigal Club, will provide informal entertainment continuously from 5:30 p.m., when serving will begin, until serving is complete.

Price will be \$1.50 for adults,

\$1 for students over 12 years of age and 75 cents for children.

A number of youngsters from the choir, orchestra and Madrigal Club have been selected to perform during the Northwest bi-annual conference of National Music Educators Association at Spokane, March 15 through 18.

The invitation to do so is a signal honor for the music department, says M. Dale Hallack, director of vocal music for city schools.

Of more than 100 schools in the Northwest that applied for invitation, only a score were selected to participate. KUHS students, further, will fill spots considered choice on the entertainment program.

The trip is to be financed entirely privately, and youngsters will miss no school.

Many local merchants are giving free dinner tickets to customers, with purchase of merchandise.

Service Delay Totals 14 Years

PORTLAND (AP)—Dr. Lawrence O. Gigandet, a Portland dentist who has been a captain in the Army reserves since 1946, got a major's commission Sunday. It was dated Feb. 4, 1946.

He said he had been eligible for promotion when he left the Army in 1945, but had not heard whether it was authorized. When he joined the reserves in early 1946, it was as a captain.

Then, recently, the old promotion turned up. Now he is eligible for back pay for his weekly meetings and two-week summer encampments.

What is more, his time in grade puts him in the list of eligibles for lieutenant colonel.

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## HONORS SCRUBWOMAN

LEEDS, England (UPI)—Mrs. Kitty Burshwood was awarded the British Empire Medal Sunday at a full dress army parade led by a general. Mrs. Burshwood was honored for her 53 years' service as a scrubwoman in the local army barracks.

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