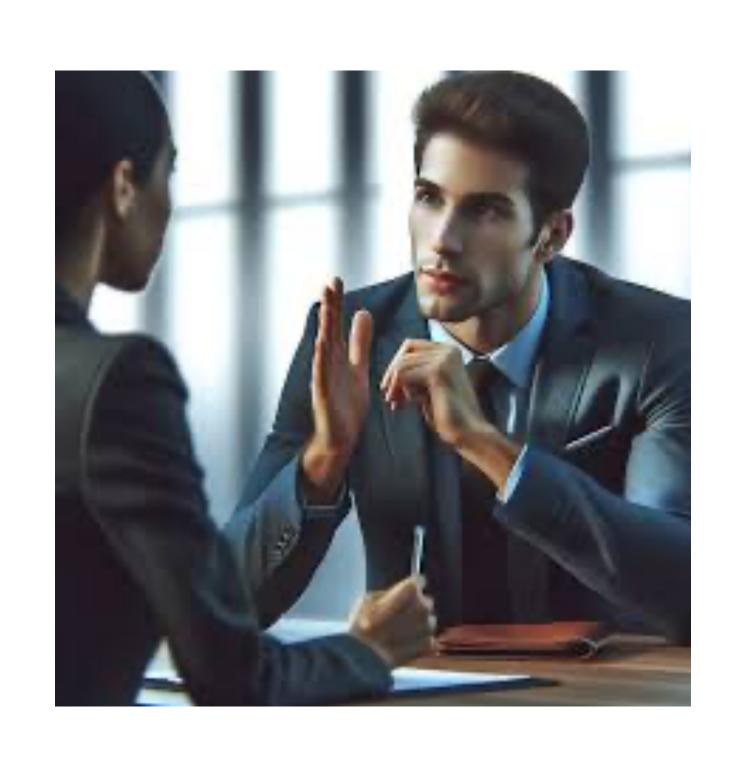
MODULE 3: PROFESSIONALISM IN CLIENT CARE





OBJECTIVE

• This class focuses on maintaining professionalism in all client interactions.

• You will learn how to make a positive first impression, improve active listening skills to better understand client needs, and recognize the role of body language in effective communication.

 Additionally, you practice asking clarifying questions to ensure accurate care and meet clients' needs. • LESSON 1: FIRST IMPRESSIONS

• LESSON 2: LISTEN

• LESSON 3: BODY LANGUAGE

• LESSON 4: ASK AGAIN

LESSON 1: FIRST IMPRESSIONS

 Objective: A positive first impression is crucial in establishing trust and rapport. Approach clients with respect, empathy, and professionalism to build a positive relationship from the start.



First Impressions:

 You only have a few seconds to make a positive first impression.
 First impressions are based on



 Appearance: Dress neatly and professionally. A clean, well-maintained appearance shows that you take your job seriously and respect the client.

Body Language: Pay attention to your body language.
 Maintain eye contact, smile, and use open, approachable gestures to show that you're engaged and ready to help.

First Impressions:

 Behavior: Be polite, respectful, and considerate. How you act and how you treat your client in those first moments can set the tone for the rest of your care.

 Clothing: Always wear appropriate, clean clothing for your role. It shows you are professional and ready to work.

First Impressions:

• When meeting a client for the first time, making a positive first impression is essential.

 Introduce yourself clearly, and explain your role. For example, "Good morning, My name is Merry Ken, and I am one of your caregiver."



 Start by reviewing the client's care plan to understand any communication challenges, and prepare accordingly.

 Ask the client how they prefer to be addressed, showing respect for their preferences.

To further build rapport:

- Give the client
 your full attention
 —stop what
 you're doing and
 focus on them.
- Maintain good posture, make eye contact, and show confidence.



 Use the client's name to create a personal connection and demonstrate attentiveness.

- Smile warmly to create a welcoming atmosphere.
- Offer a firm handshake if culturally appropriate.

- These actions will help establish trust, respect, and a positive foundation for your relationship with the client, and their family.
 - These elements help build trust right from the start, and let your clients feel safe and respected.

Respect Your Clients

 Respect means treating every client with dignity, no matter their background, condition, or situation. It's simple, but powerful. Here's how to show respect.



 Acknowledge their presence: Greet clients warmly and address them by name.

• Listen carefully: Take time to understand their needs and preferences.

Treat them as equals:
 Always approach clients
 with the mindset that they deserve the same respect as anyone else.

 Small gestures, like asking about their preferences or showing interest in their comfort, can go a long way in making them feel valued and respected.

Show Empathy

• Empathy is the ability to understand and share someone's feelings. For caregivers, empathy is essential.



- When you show empathy, you:
 - Listen attentively to your clients and acknowledge their emotions. If they express anxiety or discomfort, don't just focus on the task at hand; also pay attention to how they feel.

Show Empathy

 Offer support: If a client is worried about a procedure, show understanding and offer reassurance. For example, "I understand you're feeling nervous. I'll be here with you the whole time."

 Make a connection: By showing empathy, you make the client feel like they are understood, not just cared for physically.



 Empathy helps clients feel safe, heard, and respected. It strengthens your relationship with them, and can make difficult moments easier to navigate.

Maintain Professionalism

 Professionalism is about how you present yourself in both your actions, and appearance.



 As a caregiver, being professional shows your clients that they can trust you, and depend on you.

- Here's how to be professional:
- Be punctual: Always arrive on time for your shifts. Being on time shows that you respect the client's time and needs.

Maintain Professionalism

- Be well-prepared: Come to your shift ready to care for your client, with the right knowledge and tools for the tasks you'll need to perform.
 - Follow workplace guidelines: Know your job responsibilities and the rules of your workplace. Following these ensures that you are providing care safely and effectively.



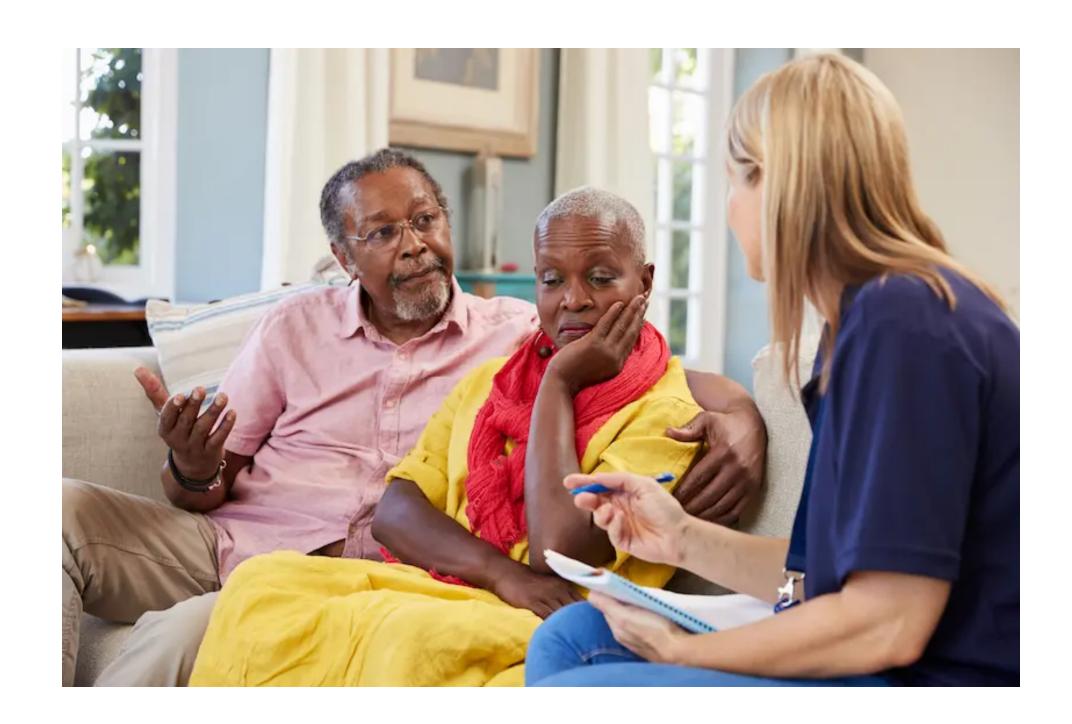
 Present yourself confidently: Speak clearly, maintain good posture, and dress appropriately. Confidence helps reassure clients that they are in good hands.

LESSON 2: LISTEN

 Objective: Actively listening to clients helps you understand their needs, preferences, and concerns. It ensures you provide personalized, attentive care that meets their expectations.



 Listening is one of the most important aspects of communication, especially when providing care to clients.



- It plays a significant role in building strong, trusting relationships, and ensures that the care you provide is based on accurate information.
- Here are some additional details on how to improve your listening skills, and be more effective in your communication with clients:

• Give Full Attention: Listening well requires your full focus. Put away distractions like your phone or paperwork, and devote your energy to the client. This shows respect and that their words are important to you.

 Non-Verbal Cues: Use body language to show that you're listening. Face the client, lean in slightly, maintain good eye contact, and nod to acknowledge that you're engaged in the conversation. These non-verbal cues demonstrate empathy and attentiveness.

 Encourage Client Sharing: To create an open space for communication, make sure the client feels comfortable sharing their thoughts and feelings. Use phrases like, "Tell me more," or "I understand," to keep the conversation flowing and make the client feel heard.

 Be Patient: Sometimes, clients may take time to find the right words, especially if they're dealing with complex emotions or health issues.



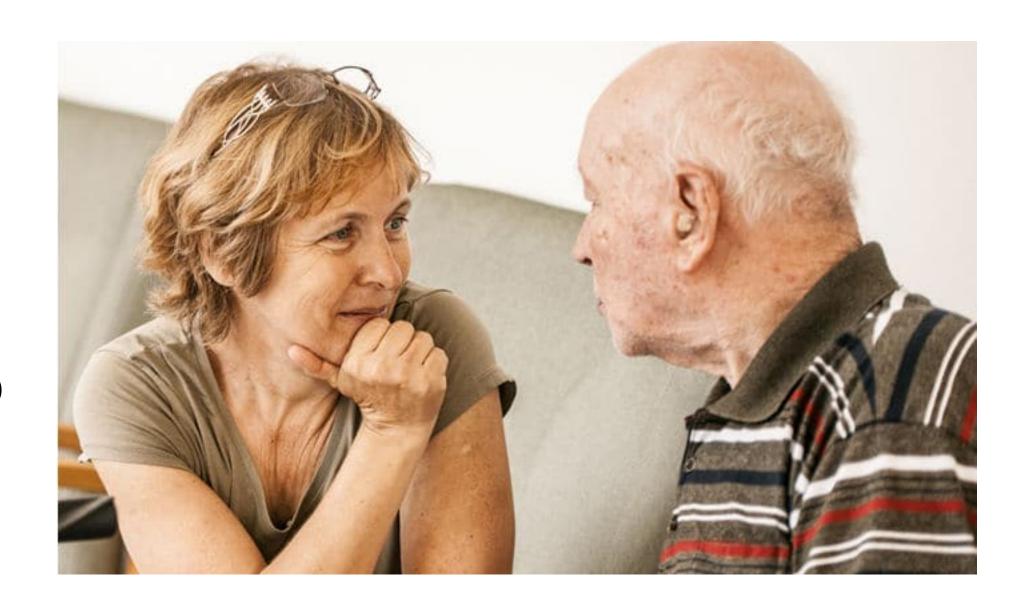
 Allow them the time to express themselves fully without rushing or interrupting.

 Clarify When Needed: If you're unsure about something the client says, ask open-ended questions to clarify.

 You can say, "Can you explain what you mean by that?" or "Could you tell me a little more about what you're feeling?" Don't Offer Unsolicited Advice: Resist the urge to jump in with suggestions unless the client specifically asks.

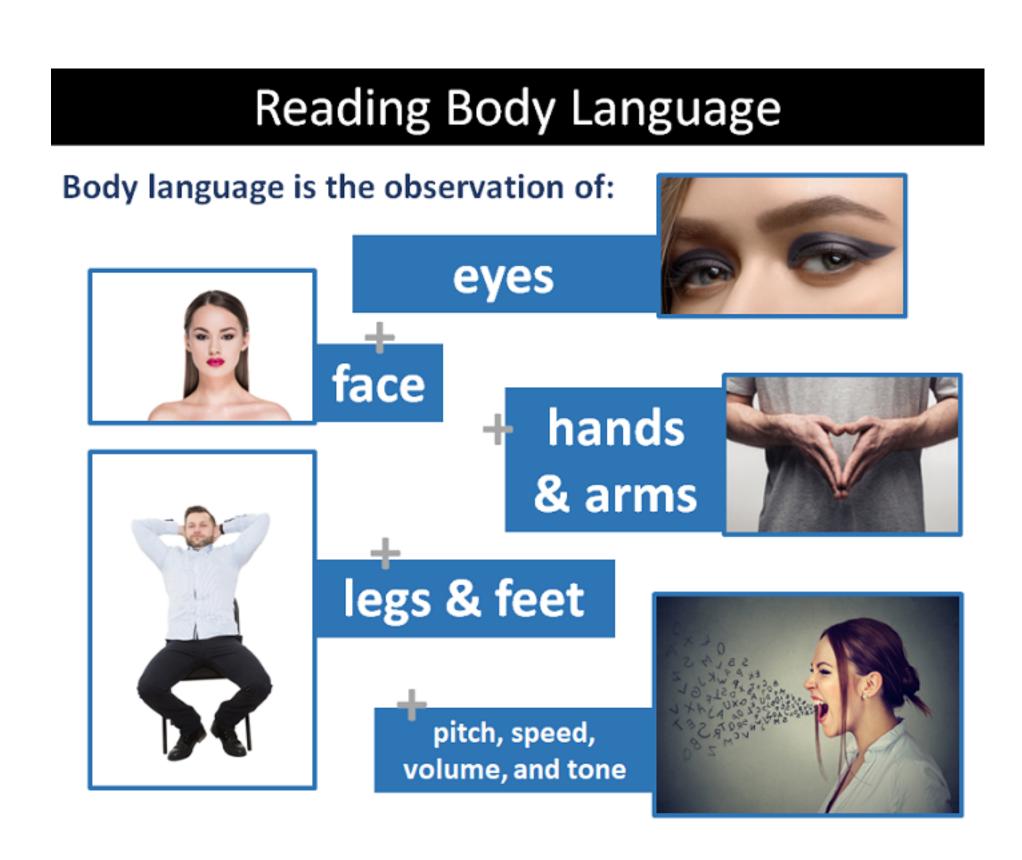
• Sometimes, the client just needs someone to listen without offering solutions, especially if they're processing difficult emotions.

 Stay Open and Non-Judgmental: Clients may talk about sensitive or difficult topics. As a caregiver, it's essential to listen without judgment.



- Be open to hearing everything, even if it makes you uncomfortable. This shows the client that you respect their feelings and their personal experience
- Empathy and Understanding: Listening with empathy allows you to understand not just what the client is saying, but also the underlying emotions they may be experiencing.
 Acknowledge these feelings, which helps build rapport and trust.

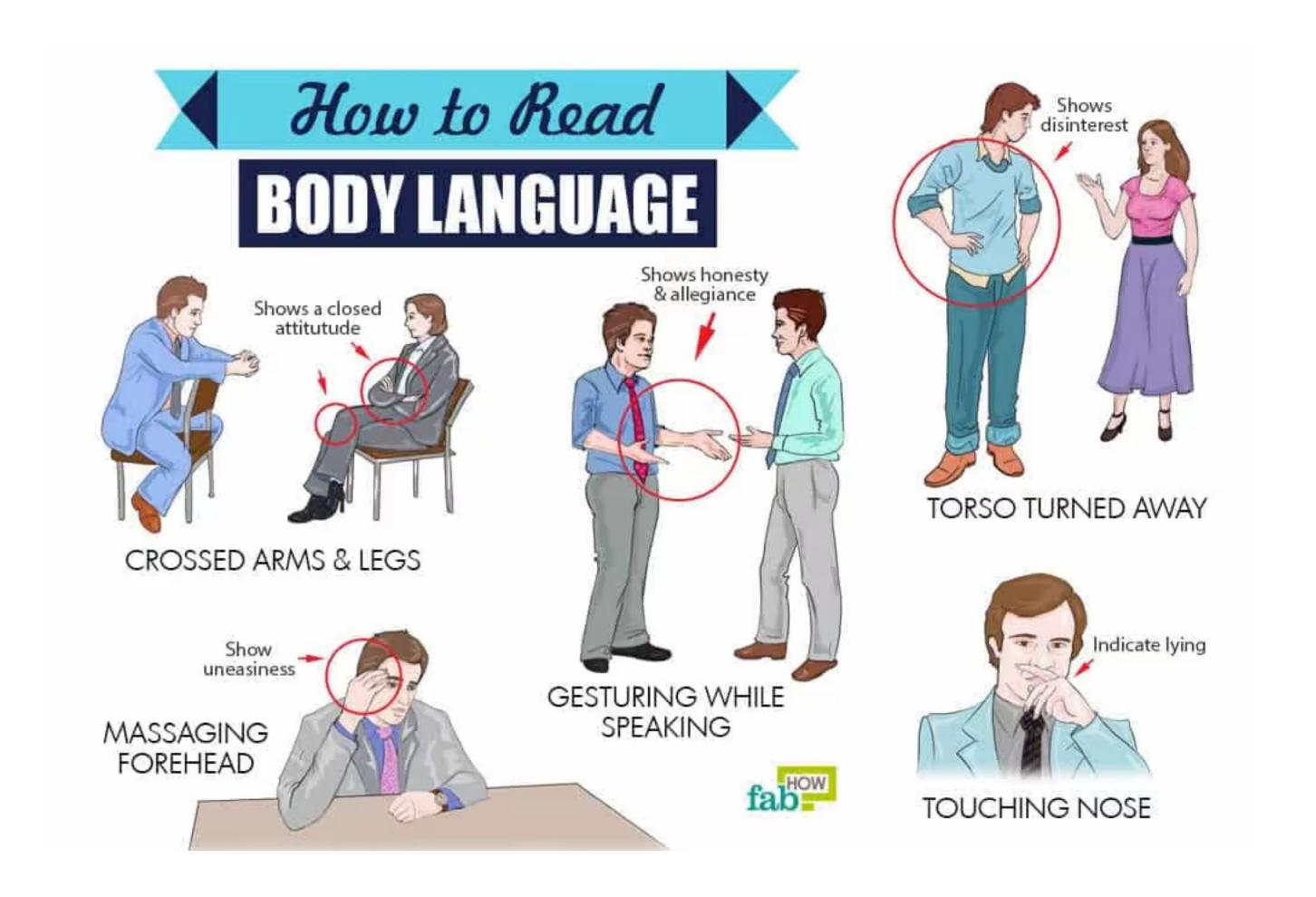
LESSON 3: BODY LANGUAGE



 Objective: Non-verbal cues such as eye contact, posture, and gestures are key in communication. Positive body language fosters trust and helps clients feel more at ease.

Your Own Body Language

 Body language is a powerful form of non-verbal communication that can significantly impact the quality of care you provide. Here's how to use it effectively.



Facial Expressions

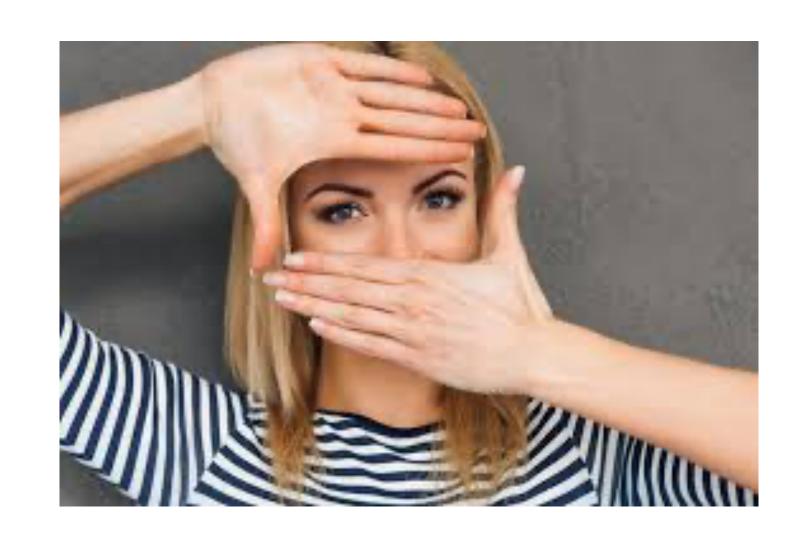


 Your facial expressions play a key role in how clients perceive you. A warm smile, combined with a calm and relaxed expression, instantly makes you appear friendly, approachable, and trustworthy.

 It helps clients feel more comfortable and at ease, especially in situations where they may be feeling vulnerable or uncertain.

Facial Expressions

 In contrast, a tense or unfriendly expression can unintentionally create distance or discomfort.



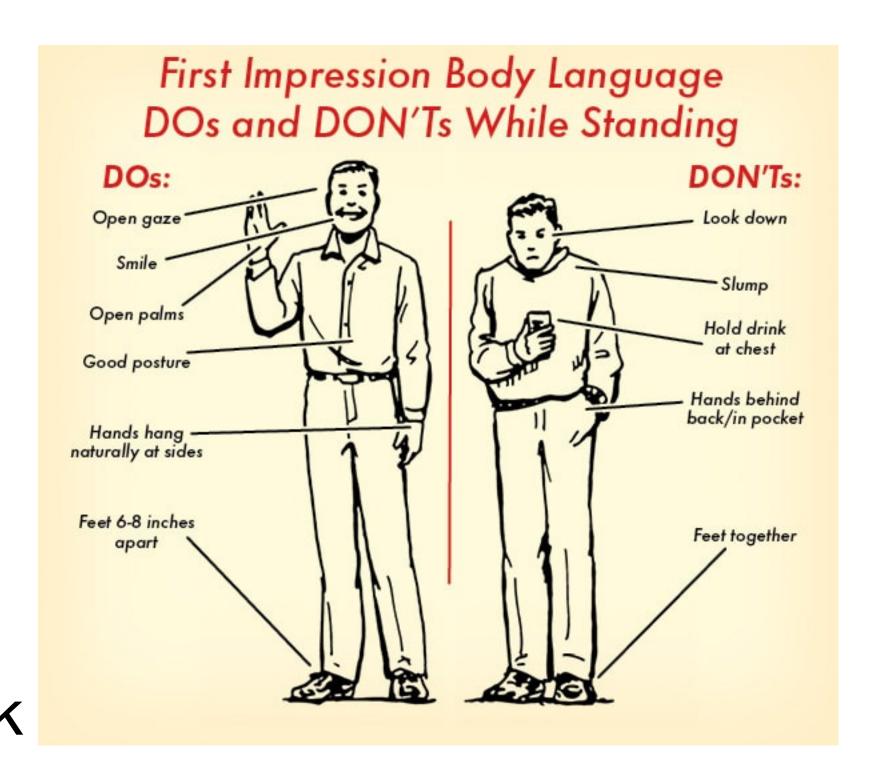
 So, a genuine smile not only makes you seem welcoming but also helps build rapport and shows that you're ready to offer care and support. Always be mindful of your facial expressions, as they are one of the first things clients notice

Your Own Body Language: Posture

 Your posture is a powerful non-verbal cue that communicates your mood, engagement, and professionalism.



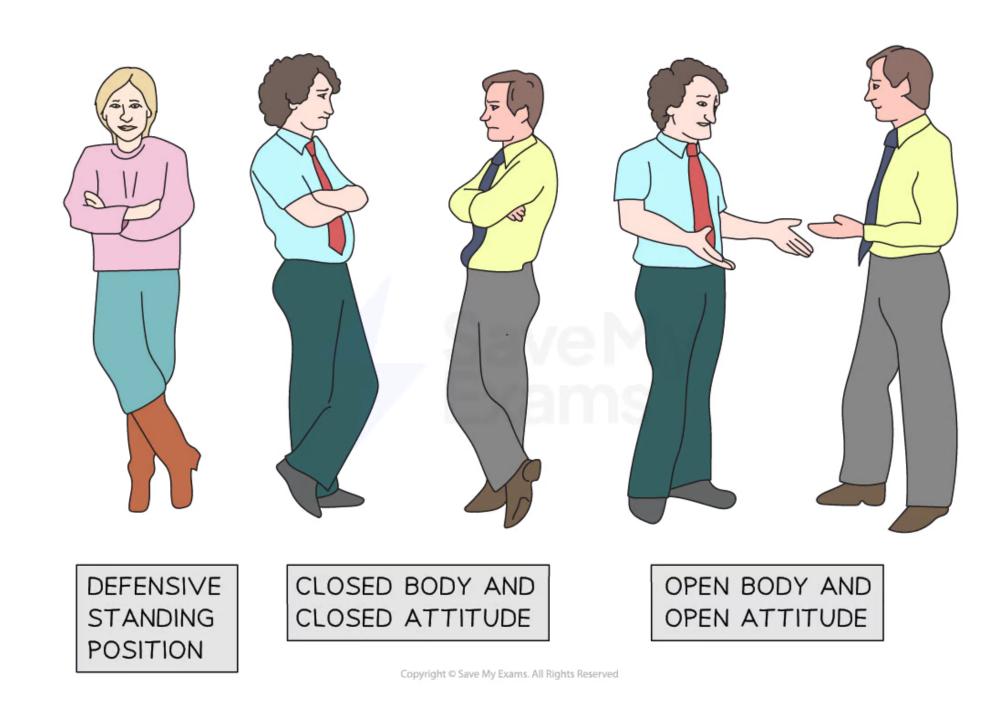
 Standing tall with your shoulders back and arms open signals confidence and openness, making you more approachable to clients.



 This posture conveys that you are ready to engage, actively listen, and provide support.

Posture

 Good posture not only improves how clients perceive you but also helps create an atmosphere of trust and respect.



 It's essential to avoid crossing your arms, slouching, or turning your body away, as these can be interpreted as defensive, closed-off, or distracted behaviors.

 A slight forward lean, combined with maintaining direct eye contact, shows that you are focused and involved in the conversation. By being mindful of your body language, you foster a more positive and productive relationship with those in your care.

Your Own Body Language: Eye Contact

 Eye contact plays a crucial role in nonverbal communication , as it demonstrates attentiveness and signals that you are fully engaged in the conversation.

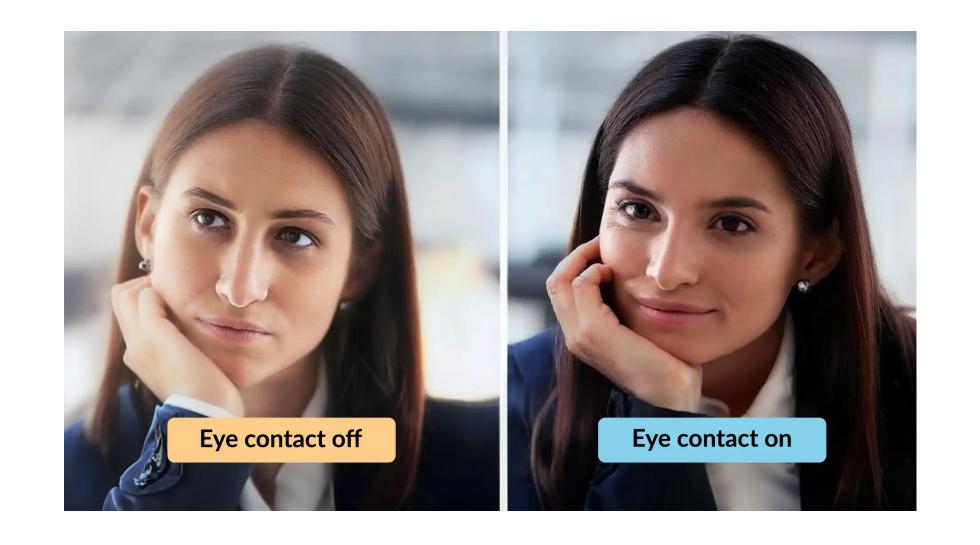
When you
 maintain good
 eye contact with
 a client, it fosters
 trust and
 encourages a
 deeper
 connection,
 making them feel
 heard and valued.



 It shows respect, signaling to the client that they have your full attention and are important to you.

Eye Contact

 While eye contact is essential, it's important to strike the right balance.

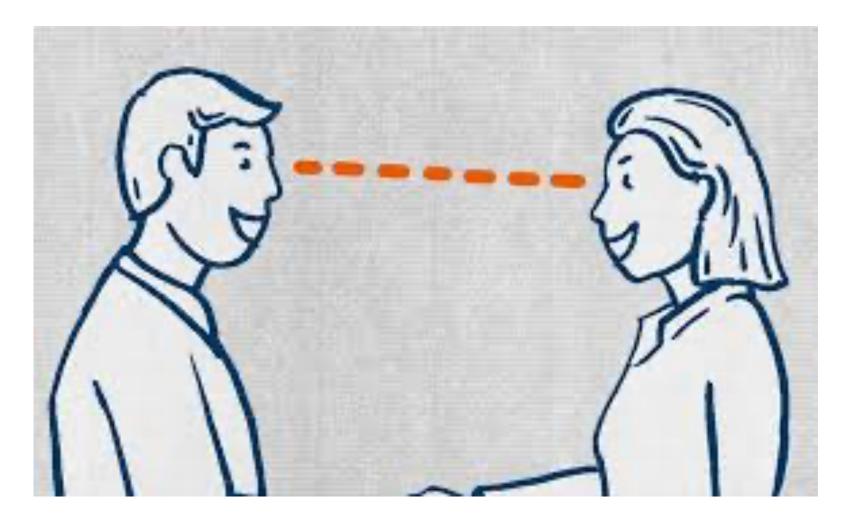


 Too little eye contact may come across as disinterest or discomfort, while too much can make the client feel uneasy or overwhelmed. The goal is to maintain natural, steady eye contact, especially during important conversations or when providing emotional support or reassurance.

Eye Contact

 When communicating with clients, consider the context and their comfort level.

 In some situations, such as when a client is upset or in distress, more gentle, intermittent eye contact may be more comforting than constant direct gaze.



 Adjusting your eye contact to the moment shows sensitivity to the client's needs.

Your Own Body Language: Tone of Voice

 Your tone of voice can make a huge difference in how your words are received.

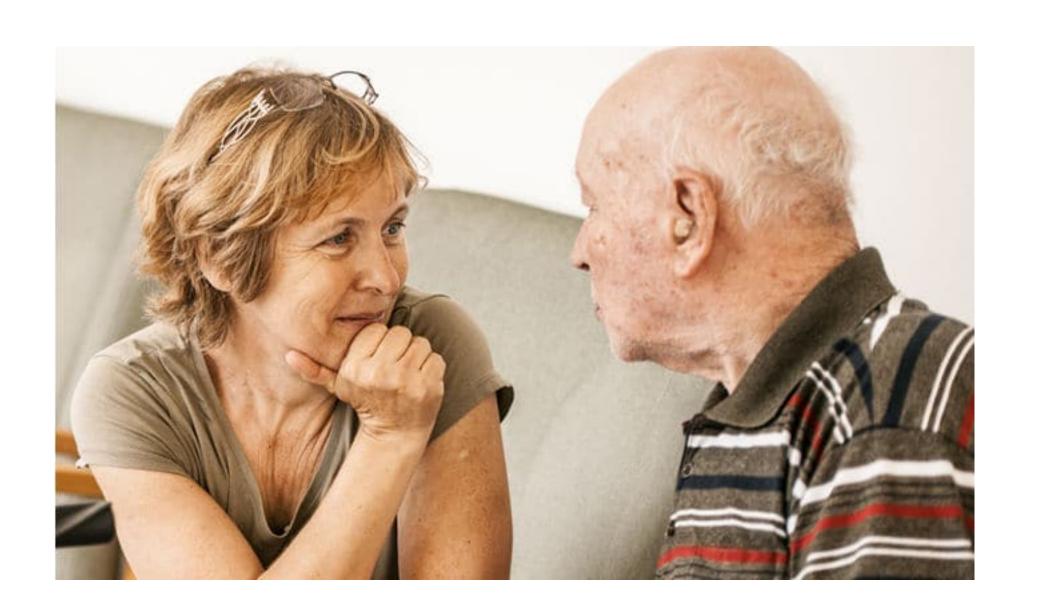
> A calm, soothing tone, lets the client know that you're there to support them, and that you understand their feelings.



 When you speak softly, and gently, it helps ease any anxiety or discomfort they may have.

Tone of Voice

 On the other hand, a harsh or hurried tone can make someone feel rushed or unimportant. It's important to match the tone of your voice to the situation—using a reassuring and warm tone helps convey empathy and comfort, making the client feel heard and cared for.



• This simple act of being mindful of your voice can strengthen the trust between you and the client.

Your Own Body Language:

Gestures

 Gestures can help reinforce what you're saying and make communication more dynamic.



5 Body Language Gestures to Avoid

Gestures

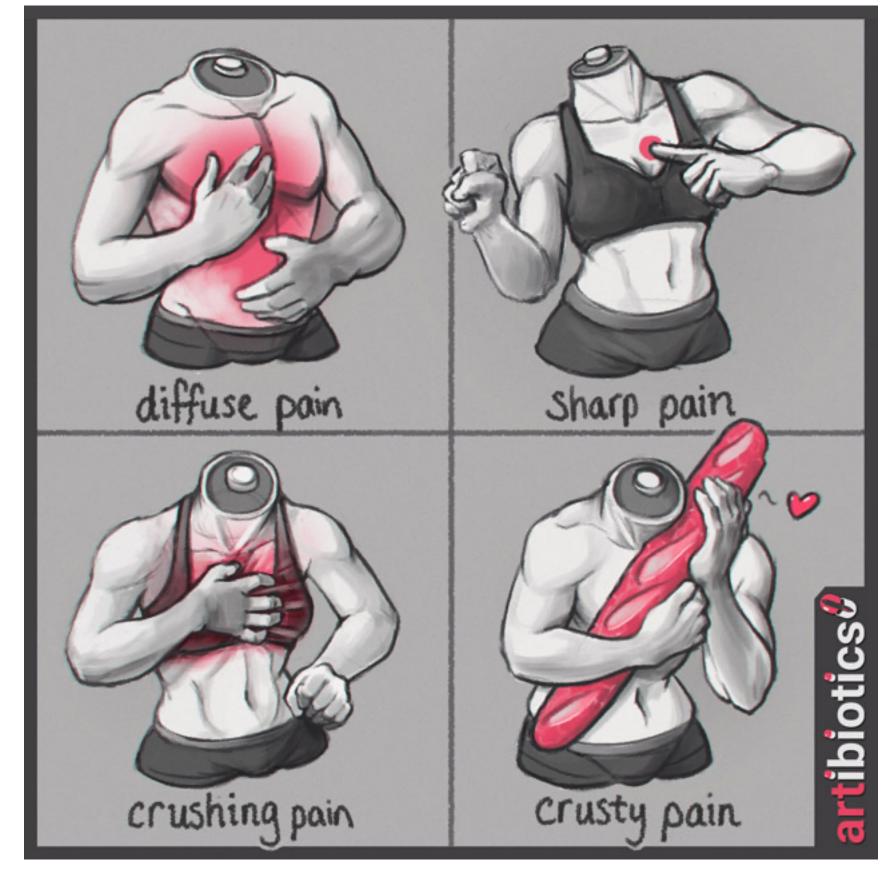
- Simple actions like nodding your head, using your hands to explain something, or offering a reassuring pat on the back can all enhance the message you're delivering.
 - These gestures help clients feel understood, and supported. However, be cautious not to use overly exaggerated or fast gestures that might distract, or overwhelm the client.

• The goal is to make the conversation feel more natural and engaging.

Reading Client's Body Language: Signs of Pain

 Pay close attention to signs of discomfort, as they can provide valuable insights into a client's physical or emotional state.

 Tension in the body, such as a tight, rigid posture, often indicates pain or discomfort.



 This can manifest as stiffness in the muscles, making it important to ask the client about any areas of discomfort.

Signs of Pain

 Another key indicator is facial grimacing.



 A strained or pained expression, such as furrowing of the brows or tightening of the jaw, can suggest distress even if the client isn't verbally expressing it.

 Additionally, if a client frequently touches or guards a specific part of their body, it may point to an area that is causing them pain or discomfort.

Signs of Pain

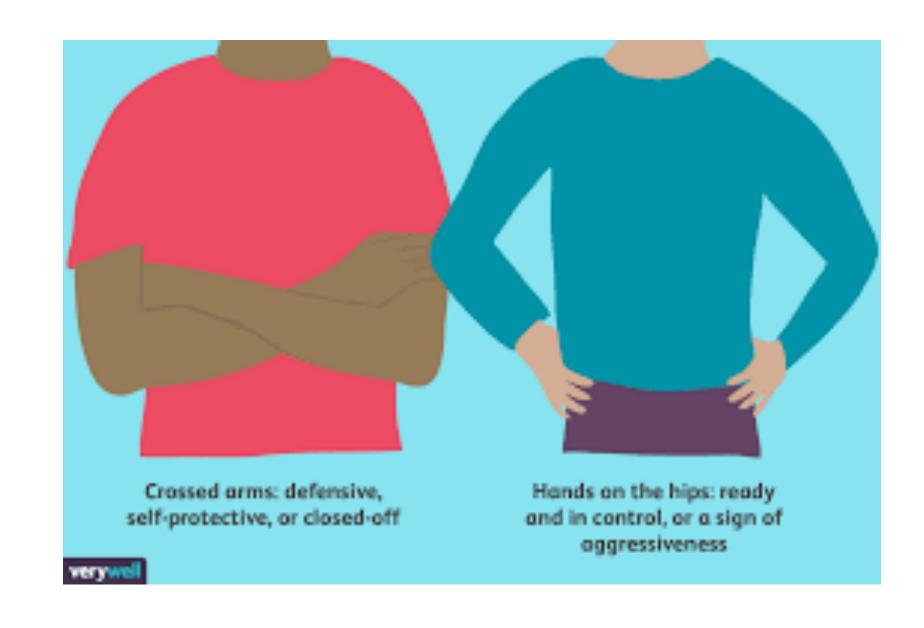
 Being observant of these signs allows you to act quickly, whether it's adjusting your care approach, offering pain relief, or alerting a medical professional.



 By recognizing and responding to these signals, you ensure the client feels cared for and their needs are met in a timely and compassionate manner.

Reading Client's Body Language: Closed Posture

 Closed posture is a key indicator of a client's emotional state, revealing how they may be feeling internally.



 When a client crosses their arms or legs, it often signals a sense of defensiveness or discomfort.

• This gesture may indicate that the client is feeling vulnerable, anxious, or even untrusting, and they may be subconsciously trying to shield themselves.

Closed Posture

 Similarly, if a client turns their body away from you, it could be a sign of unease or a desire for emotional space.



 If you notice closed posture, it may be helpful to gently create a more open and welcoming environment by maintaining a calm demeanor, offering reassurance, and giving the client time to feel more comfortable.

 Turning away may be their way of indicating that they are not yet ready to engage or are feeling overwhelmed by the situation. Adjusting your approach based on these non-verbal cues can help foster trust, and make the client feel more at ease, ensuring that they feel respected and understood.

> As a caregiver, it's important to observe these signs and respond with sensitivity.

Reading Client's Body Language: Restlessness

 Restlessness can also manifest in subtle ways, such as tapping fingers, bouncing feet, or continuously adjusting their seating position.



 These behaviors may indicate that the client is feeling overwhelmed or unable to relax.

• It's important to observe whether this restlessness correlates with any specific triggers, such as pain, an uncomfortable environment, or emotional distress.

Restlessness

- When you notice signs of restlessness, it's essential to respond with empathy and patience.
 - Gently check in with the client to see if they need assistance, reassurance, or a change in their environment.



 By acknowledging their discomfort, you can help create a more calming atmosphere and better address their needs.

Matching Words with Actions:

- When your body language is in harmony with your words, it strengthens the message you are trying to convey.
 - For instance, if you're speaking kindly and offering assistance, but your arms are crossed or you're looking away, the client might feel you are not fully engaged or open to them.



 On the other hand, if you smile genuinely, make eye contact, and lean slightly forward, it shows that you are actively listening and truly present with them.

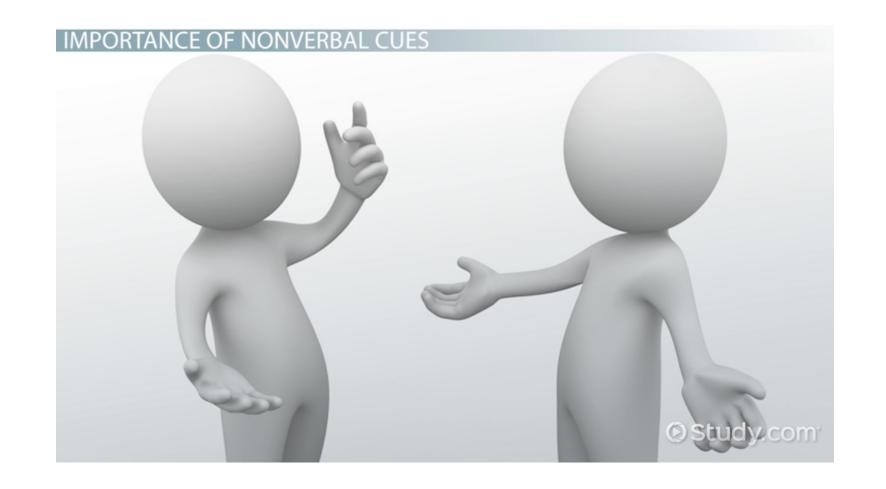
Matching Words with Actions:

- If your tone is inconsistent with your body language—perhaps sounding abrupt while trying to appear approachable—it can create confusion and undermine trust.
- Always be mindful that nonverbal communication speaks volumes.
- The more aligned your words, tone, and body language are, the stronger your connection with the client will be, and the more effectively you'll be able to provide compassionate, high-quality care.

Reacting to Body Language: Non-verbal Cues

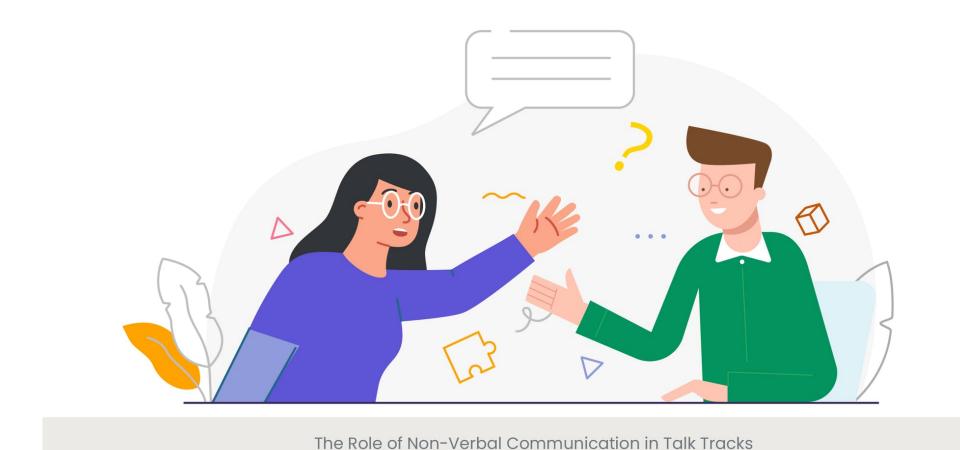
 Non-verbal cues are crucial in understanding a client's emotional, or physical state. • For example, if you notice a client grimacing, shifting, or tensing up, you might say, "I see you're uncomfortable; let me adjust this for you," to show that you are attentive to their needs and are willing to take action to help them feel better.

 When a client's body language signals distress or discomfort, it's important to acknowledge it and respond with empathy.



Reacting to Body Language: Non-verbal Cues

 By recognizing and responding to these non-verbal signals, you demonstrate care and understanding, which helps build trust with the client.



 It reassures them that you are listening to both their words and their body language, making them feel seen and supported.

 This kind of responsive care enhances the overall comfort and well-being of the client

Reacting to Body Language: Mirroring

 Mirroring is another technique that can help build rapport.

 By subtly matching the client's body language, such as mimicking their posture or gesture (without being obvious), you can help them feel understood and more at ease. This technique fosters a sense of connection and empathy, signaling that you are aligned with their emotional state and making them feel heard.

Creating Comfort and Trust

 Positive body language helps clients feel at ease and confident in your care.

 This fosters a sense of trust, which is essential in building a strong, supportive relationship. When clients sense that you are engaged, open, and approachable, they are more likely to feel comfortable sharing their concerns, preferences, and needs.

 Positive non-verbal communication shows that you value and respect the client, making them feel safer and more confident in the care they are receiving.

LESSON 4: ASK AGAIN

• Objective: Students will demonstrate effective communication skills by seeking clarification, when a client's request, or concern is unclear.



 They will understand that, asking for clarification helps prevent misunderstandings, and ensures the delivery of accurate, and appropriate care.

ASK AGAIN

 If unclear about a client's request or concern, always ask again. Clarification helps prevent misunderstandings and ensures the right care is given.



• As a caregiver, one of the most important ways you can provide excellent care is by effectively communicating with your clients.

ASK AGAIN

 Asking the right questions, and regularly checking in with your clients ensures that you're meeting their needs, and respecting their preferences.

 Good questions help you get the information you need to provide the best care possible. Here's how to ask questions that get you useful answers.



 Be Specific About the Task: When assisting with a particular activity, such as bathing or eating, be specific about what the client prefers. For example:

"Do you prefer a bath or shower today?"

"Would you like a hot or cold drink?"

Ask open-Ended Questions

 Open-ended questions encourage your client to provide more detailed answers, which gives you a better understanding of their preferences and needs. For example:



 "What would you like for breakfast?" (instead of "Do you want breakfast now?")

• "How do you like your bath water temperature?"

Use "W" questions

• Use "What," "When," "Where," "Why," and "How"

- Asking questions that begin with these words helps you gather more information. For example:
 - "When do you prefer to take your medications?"



- "How hot do you like your bath water?"
 - "What type of soap works best for your skin?"

 By asking the right questions, you ensure that you're providing care the way your client wants it, which is critical for maintaining their dignity and comfort.

Asking Again (Follow-Up)

• Clients' preferences and needs can change over time.



 What worked one day might not be suitable the next. That's why regularly checking in with your clients is important. Here's why and how you can ask again Regular Check-Ins: It's important to check in with your client regularly to ensure you're still meeting their needs. This gives the client an opportunity to express any new preferences or concerns. For example:



• "Is there anything you would like me to do differently today?"

 "How are you feeling today? Is there anything that would make you more comfortable?"

Asking Again (Follow-Up)

 Be Open to Feedback: Your clients may not always feel comfortable speaking up, so it's your job to encourage them. After performing a task, ask how they felt about it:

- "Did you feel comfortable during the bath? Would you prefer something different next time?"
- "Is the temperature okay for you, or would you like it warmer/cooler?"
- Adapt to Changes: Clients may experience physical or emotional changes that affect their care needs.
- By asking again and checking in frequently, you stay informed and can adjust the care plan accordingly.
- This shows your clients that you're paying attention to their evolving needs.

Build Trust and Respect

 Asking the right questions, and checking in regularly builds a strong relationship of trust with your clients. It shows that you are:



 Listening: When you ask follow-up questions and make sure you understand your client's preferences, you're showing that their voice matters.

- Respecting their Choices: It demonstrates that you care about providing care the way they want, not just the way it's most convenient for you.
- Providing Personalized Care: It helps ensure that the care you provide is tailored to the client's changing needs, rather than a one-size-fits-all approach.

Congratulations, you completed module 3. Please complete the quizzes.

https://www.howtogetyourownway.com/images/reading-body-language.png

https://www.jasminedirectory.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/language.jpg

https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcT1EfKWV-mMUssZlivUgCLhuuUUXDC zNTyAA&s

https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQGi7c9KS96Z5yqE2fbsNzQtyAzHWTzxqI5wA&s

https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcRWBESvTVq3jg4rm4rWRi1FWcCyezCLJr49kg&s

https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSxGJtIx71ynkuk9MzxvKYnb7vVw BsXIrG1A&s

https://img.jagranjosh.com/images/2022/July/2972022/Know-5-Body-Language-Gestures-That-Leave-Bad-Impression-compressed.jpg

https://images.squarespace-cdn.com/content/v1/593adddf725e25a4294e8028/1498545326171-IQ5HURSD3O9I9TDRA56A/the+body+language+of+pain, +caretoon+by+Dr+Ciléin+Kearns

https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcTRP91U8TDo7u8qb2_jByKHia7gtz1PIqUF9A&s

https://e7.pngegg.com/pngimages/920/836/png-clipart-thought-mind-graphy-psychology-asking-psychology-memory-thumbnail.png

https://www.howtogetyourownway.com/images/reading-body-language.png

https://www.jasminedirectory.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/language.jpg

https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcT1EfKWV-mMUssZIivUgCLhuuUUXDC zNTyAA&s

https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQGi7c9KS96Z5yqE2fbsNzQtyAzHWTzxqI5wA&s

https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcRWBESvTVq3jg4rm4rWRi1FWcCyezCLJr49kg&s

https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSxGJtIx71ynkuk9MzxvKYnb7vVw_BsXIrG1A&s

https://img.jagranjosh.com/images/2022/July/2972022/Know-5-Body-Language-Gestures-That-Leave-Bad-Impression-compressed.jpg

https://images.squarespace-cdn.com/content/v1/593adddf725e25a4294e8028/1498545326171-IQ5HURSD3O9I9TDRA56A/the+body+language+of+pain, +caretoon+by+Dr+Ciléin+Kearns

https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcTRP91U8TDo7u8qb2_jByKHia7gtz1PIqUF9A&s

https://e7.pngegg.com/pngimages/920/836/png-clipart-thought-mind-graphy-psychology-asking-psychology-memory-thumbnail.png

https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/training/dshs-curriculum-and-materials-available

- https://energycentral.com/sites/default/files/ece/nodes/441136/first20impression.jpg
- https://www.akbuildingservices.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Untitled-design-4.jpg
- https://c3centricity.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/handshake-2009195.jpg
- https://etiquetteschoolofamerica.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/How-T0-Make-a-Great-First-Impression-The-5-Step-Formula-scaled.jpeg
- https://lh6.googleusercontent.com/proxy/ fTmpjlJIDwa-3vevtMT9nc5E0u4Wwaj83meyli64sUADSWE AQp9BdRv2X-1TpGkkgf4ztjl-ONpuXKiL2u0KYiZZcLtg6Dfj4EVJ26dkYLi5qOQkmggXej2ID NBAoyyT98tn35tkBPMFZY6tXPf8DJuR8
- https://jamieclarkecounselling.co.uk/cdn/shop/articles/Emapthy.jpg?v=1707915150&width=1100
- https://www.wikihow.com/images/thumb/9/95/Be-Punctual-Step-17.jpg/v4-460px-Be-Punctual-Step-17.jpg.webp

- https://irp.cdn-website.com/def8735d/dms3rep/multi/3+listen.png
- https://tactustherapy.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/ppa-assessment.jpg
- https://www.sltlondon.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/blog-10-1.jpg
- https://dailycaring.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/communicate-with-aging-parent.jpg
- https://thehappydemic.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/eye-930x620.jpg
- https://athenatrainingandconsulting.com/wp-content/uploads/ATHENA-EYE-CONTACT-1.png
- https://img.medscapestatic.com/pi/meds/ckb/73/12473tn.jpg
- https://sa1s3optim.patientpop.com/assets/images/provider/photos/2702992.jpg

https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/body-language-man-business-suit-600nw-346698167.jpg

https://resources.sansan.com/hubfs/Imported Blog Media/GettyImages-680316227-Article-4.jpg

https://smallbizclub.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Do-Your-Actions-Match-Your-Words.jpg

https://study.com/cimages/videopreview/ozz7dcks8x.jpg

https://www.inkppt.com/guides/content/images/2024/12/1.-The-Role-of-Non-Verbal-Communication-in-Talk-Tracks.jpg

https://s.wsj.net/public/resources/images/BN-PX301 WORKFA M 20160920123603.jpg

https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcTIIdcELPmgyL1XkozYAG37qmRS1pw_ggG9LA&s

https://canopy.is/blog/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/a04ab-1xc9faboit5kbkdb3cuwr3g.jpeg

https://www.retently.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/open-ended-questions-examples.png

- https://miro.medium.com/v2/resize:fit:1400/1*Sx4Z5ii13xqqAAb9hQkpEg.jpeg
- https://www.insperity.com/wp-content/uploads/trust and respect in workplace.png
- https://media.licdn.com/dms/image/v2/D5612AQEw-llAsw8SDg/article-cover_image-shrink_720_1280/0/1657230853462?
 e=2147483647&v=beta&t=SAZbw9QV5B2IkvTjxfp_tHUJiXFcXqODVjLYkZRZy4k
- https://content.artofmanliness.com/uploads/2016/11/F-I-Standing-1.jpg
- https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/ 629921453332210f9bc4b034/66eacc789d3cb71cda909d52_why is eye contact important in https://static01.nyt.com/images/2018/07/24/well/ask-sit-fidget/ask-sit-fidget-articleLarge.jpg?quality=75&auto=webp&disable=upscale

Congratulations, you completed module 3. Please complete the quizzes.