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THE KNOWLEDGE GAP AND ITS REFLECTION IN LANGUAGE

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Knowledge gap is an important factor in communication. It can dramatically affect our interactions so care should be taken to understand words, specific grammatical structures and even pronunciation habits of speakers in at least the most significant fields of human activities.

The Oxford English Dictionary says that the English word 'communicate' means 'to have a common door with'. The common door is first of all, of course, the same language people use when communicating. Thanks to the language they have in common, there is an open door between them.

People who share experiences and interests often develop their own language. This language helps them to communicate better and, at the same time, makes it more difficult for other people to take part.

Here is an extract from the *Collins Gem dictionary of basic Facts on Computers*. *Computers are a new technology and a new language has been developed to talk about them. If we simply read these definitions we don't learn very much. Without knowledge and experience the words will remain meaningless (1, p. 10-11)*

For example: *INTELLIGENT TERMINAL* is a terminal which retains a program and allows processing of data to be carried out without further access to the computer.

The Arabic language has many words which refer to the camel. An Eskimo would probably not really understand any of them unless he lived and worked with camels in the desert. On the other hand, the Eskimo has about 12 words for snow and most Arab people would find it difficult to understand these words even if they were explained.

In English there are now over one million words. The average British person knows between 30,000 and 60,000 words. We may speak the same language but we don't necessarily use the same words. If we want to communicate successfully we must share similar experiences as well as the same words.

Conclusion: Nowadays understanding in communication very much depends on the knowledge gap, which can dramatically affect our interactions. Computer field language begins to be increasingly used in all walks of life and is capable of producing a very significant knowledge gap, preventing people from having a common door among them.

REFERENCES

1. Wright, A. How to communicate successfully / A. Wright. – Cambridge : CUP, Tenth printing, 2007. – 86 p.