



Communication barriers: What they are and how to eliminate them

## **1 Language barriers**

Involve miscommunications related to vernacular differences or translation difficulties.

Even when speaking the same language, dialects, accents, and unique communication quirks can all result in misunderstandings and other unintended consequences.

Likewise, people in the same organization may struggle with differences in vocabulary. If you've ever been asked if you have the bandwidth to think outside the box, can step up to the plate and swing for the fences, synergize efforts to pick the low-hanging fruit, or disrupt the conversation, you may be familiar with this frustration.

## **2 Cultural barriers**

Cultural barriers to communication stem from differences in social norms and values.

It's important to be aware of ethnocentricity, or the assumption that all cultures share your values, beliefs, and lifestyle. Addressing ethnocentrism and emphasizing inclusion in your company culture will help team members feel valued and included, regardless of their background. Externally, you can

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educate your team on how to avoid [business etiquette](#) missteps in other cultures.

### **3 Physical barriers**

Distance is the most common physical barrier. As remote work becomes increasingly common, team members may find themselves sitting hundreds or even thousands of miles away from their colleagues. Without strong systems in place to keep them connected, they will struggle to communicate effectively.

### **4 Psychological barriers**

Psychological barriers are caused by individual mindsets or mental health concerns.

Although disagreements are inevitable in most workplaces, sometimes these conflicts can cause serious problems. When employees with contrasting viewpoints and priorities also have [clashing communication styles](#), their conflicts can negatively impact the whole team.

A lack of trust is a common psychological barrier that can make communication extremely difficult.

When employees feel unheard, unsupported, or undervalued, they will struggle to excel.

## **5 Technological barriers**

Technological barriers to communication emerge when people don't have the right tools or right training to use them.

There are three essential things your team needs to function effectively: up-to-date hardware, the *right* business communication tools, systems for their duties, and training in how to use these technologies effectively.

## **6 Organizational barriers**

Organizational barriers to communication stem from a lack of understanding of your business structure and individual roles within it.

Organizational barriers can affect businesses of all sizes, and they often occur because employees are unaware of, or do not fully understand, an existing structure. Employees may not know how to share or request information. Communication silos and bottlenecks, meanwhile, are common symptoms of a *structure* that may need to be reorganized or clarified.

Reference : [Grammarly](#)