

Name: _____

How to Write Good Communiques

Remember, a good communique responds to something you have read in another country's opening statement or communique. It can be in the form of an assertion, a question, or a proposal (or it can be an informative answer to another country's question).

An Assertion: makes a statement of fact, establishes a position, or gives information to other countries. Assertions use claim-evidence-reasoning by providing at least one fact to support the claim and use reasoning to connect the evidence to the claim.

A Question: obtains information from other countries that helps you to continue negotiating more effectively.

A Proposal: suggests an action. Proposals can include questions and assertions, but the questions and assertions included in the proposal would be in support of the proposal.

What do these different types of communiques look like?

Imagine your brother or sister or friend said the following thing to you:

When we get our first pet, it should be a cat. Cats don't eat as much as dogs do. Cats don't need to go outside in order to go to the bathroom, and cats are good at catching mice in a house. Therefore, a cat would make a better pet than a dog because cats are easier and less expensive to take care of, and they can help keep our home pest-free.

Here are three examples of "communique" responses you could make. Notice how they each include a **claim**, *evidence*, reasoning chain, and they each **refer to something specific in the original statement** made by your brother/sister/friend.

ASSERTION: **I agree with your idea that we should get a cat** because *we live in an apartment. Living in an apartment makes it harder to take pets outside to go to the bathroom, so it makes sense to me that a cat would be a better option for where we live.*

QUESTION: **Is there a reason you haven't considered getting a fish or a parakeet?** *I noticed in your proposal that you only mentioned cats and dogs, but fish and parakeets seem to be animals that don't need to go outside to go to the bathroom, and they don't eat much either.*

PROPOSAL: **I think we should install a dog door that goes out to our fenced in back yard.** *A dog door would allow a pet to go outside to go to the bathroom whenever it wanted to. This would help solve the problem you mentioned about us needing to take a pet outside to go to the bathroom. This way, we could still be open to getting a dog, and it wouldn't take as much work as you suggested.*

Now you practice.

Imagine that a friend said the following statement to you. How could you respond? Make sure you include a **claim**, *evidence*, reasoning chain, and you **refer to something specific in the original statement** made by your friend.

Soccer is a safer sport to play than football for teenage boys. Soccer players get more injuries to their knees and ankles, but football players get more concussions. There is also a bigger difference between the size and weight of boys when they are teenagers than when they are adults. Even though players of both sports can get injuries, a concussion will affect a student's ability to think and focus in school more than a knee or ankle injury, and the size difference in boys when they're teens combined with the fact that football requires players to hit each other more than soccer means that smaller boys will get hurt more in football than soccer.

ASSERTION:

QUESTION:

PROPOSAL:

Name: _____

Good Communiques in GE2

Below are some examples of good communiques. For each communique, do each of the following:

1. Identify whether it is an assertion, question, or proposal.
 2. For every communique after the first one, highlight the part of the communique where the author referenced something specific that was said in a previous communique.
 3. For every communique, circle the claim, draw a squiggly line under the evidence, and draw a straight line under the reasoning. Are some communiques missing one of these pieces? If so, try writing something next to the communique that could make it better.
 4. Add your own communique to the end of each thread.
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Thread #1: Economics (Subject= International Water Conference)

Msg 521

From Spain to Australia; China; Egypt; France; India; Iran; Japan; Mexico; Netherlands; Nigeria; Russia; Saudi Arabia; South Africa; Sudan; Turkey; United States

<http://warrenbuffet.com>

<http://www.gatesfoundation.org>

Dear Fellow Delegates,

We, Spain, would like to propose an idea to have an International Water Conference. This conference would be a great way to raise money for water projects. Up above, there are a few websites that lead to some of the richest people in the world and how they use their money for charity. At this Water Conference we would come up with ways to use the money we earn for advertising and helping countries in need. Please respond with suggestions or ideas.

From,

The Spanish Delegation

Msg 529

From US to Australia; China; Egypt; France; India; Iran; Japan; Mexico; Netherlands; Nigeria; Russia; Saudi Arabia; South Africa; Spain; Sudan; Turkey; Simcon

To the Spanish Delegation,

We believe that this is a great idea. Since the US has already decided that this is the decade of water, we propose to link up with the UN and have the UN run the Water Conference. They can

still work with foundations and ask for donations, but they already specialize in running international conferences.

Sincerely,
The US Delegation

Msg 615

From Spain to US

Dear United States Delegation,

We don't think that this is the best way to hold the Water Conference. But we like the idea of still working with foundations and donations towards water scarcity. If we work together and raise enough money, we may be able to help the poor countries that have to pay for water. We should also try to convince the poor countries' governments to stop having them pay for water to drink, use to cook, and plumbing.

Sincerely
Spain's Delegation

Msg 619

From US to Spain

To the Spanish Delegation,

Why do you not believe that the UN should run the water conference? They have declared this decade the decade of water, have extensive experience running international conferences, already have links to most of the wealthiest donors in the world, and are viewed as one of the most legitimate international organizations in the world.

If you do not think the UN should run the Conference, who else do you propose? If one country runs it, then countries that are not allies or do not have a relationship may not trust the conference. If multiple countries run it, you then have to decide who will be the 'coordinator'. If the UN runs it, you don't have any of those problems.

Sincerely,
The US Delegation

Msg 753

Spain to US

Dear United States Delegation,

The Spanish Delegation thinks that the UN is already too busy with trying to bring peace and security to the world. The UN is dealing with wars, conflicts, resources, human rights, environment, and health. The UN has too much to handle and then to include water

issues/conferences as well. I.W.C.C is a better way to hold the conference. This committee deals with water issues and water issues only. The I.W.C.C would like to start by inviting five nations; U.S., Spain, South Africa, China, and Mexico. These countries are from each region of the world and are all suffering with water scarcity. When other countries hear about this conference that may want to join later in the conference. The U.S is thinking about leaving the U.N. because they say that the U.N. is dragging that down with them. The U.N. is using the U.S's money to help out with peace and security. The U.S. is paying a large percentage of the UN's budget, and they don't need the UN as much as before. When the UN is struggling with their jobs they are just using up the U.S.'s money that they bring in.

Sincerely Spain's Delegation

Msg 754 (How could you respond?)

Thread #2: Human Rights (Subject= Alliances)

Msg 214

From Iran to Russia

We would love to be in a partnership with you. In fact, we should consider building a pipeline through the Caspian Sea. Accessing more oil is something you have said that you would like to do, so this would be good for both of our countries. If you agree with this idea, please inform us as soon as possible.

Msg 388

From Russia to Iran

Greetings to the Iranian Delegation,

We have discussed the positives of having an oil pipe across the Caspian Sea. We believe this would boost both of our economies and that extra money could fund programs that are working to clean our water. We are focussing most of our money on other pressing issues in our country so we would have to share the price of this pipeline, so we can still focus on those issues. Please refer to the Russian economics group for further information on spending in Russia.

-Russian Delegation of Human Rights

Msg 648

Iran to Russia

We do agree with the idea of running an oil pipeline through the Caspian Sea. We also agree to split the price, but would like to make a second proposal as well. In order to split the price for Iran's oil to be shipped to your country, we are asking for water in return. According to your geography and climate, water is plentiful, due to the amount of precipitation you receive on average. Here in Iran, we can get as little as 6mm per month in the summer months, which results in serious water shortages. At a minimum, Russia gets 32 mm per month, and in October, you even get almost 100 mm. It is very reasonable for Iran to ask for water in return for our free oil.

Msg 764

Russia to Iran

Greetings to Iranian Delegation,

We must insist you speak to our economics group to discuss the way this pipeline will be payed for. We were hoping to sell our oil to you through this pipeline. Maybe we could have the pipeline reach to countries who aren't as rich in oil as we are. We could sell our oil to them. The idea of transporting water to Iran is a wonderful prospect, but how exactly would we transport the water to you? How could this transportation be economically efficient and a guarantee that

the water would be safe by the time it got to your borders? We could make another pipeline to transport the water but making 2 pipelines would cost a lot of money. If you can think of the best way to send the water to you, we will be open minded.

Much gratitude, Russia

Msg 975

Iran to Russia

Greetings to the Russian Delegation,

Transporting water through pipelines is a very difficult task. There are a couple of ways to transport the water through pipes. You can either transport the water or oil through gravity pipelines with costs about 15 million dollars for about 31km of pipeline with a diameter of about 96 cm. The other pipeline solution of pumping water costs about 30 million dollars for about 7km of pipeline with a diameter of 76 cm. From this data the obvious solution is gravity pipes. Other ways to transport water are tanker trucks, trucks that transport the water, or aqueducts, both for fairly short distances. This is not an option because we are about 2,400 km apart. Iran thinks that our best solution is through gravity pipelines, but we cannot assure that the water will be safe. There is a possibility of leaks, people breaking the pipes, and the cost is very high, about \$1,232,000,000, but the maintenance is low in cost and it can generate electricity. These oil and water pipeline are short term solutions that could greatly help both of us.

Msg 976 (How could you respond?)

Thread #3: Environment (Subject= Aquatabs- Water Purification
Tablets)

Msg 766

From Russia to All

Dear International Community,

Russia has been researching more viable options for fighting water-born diseases. We declined the offer of water straws, due to its cost and one-time only use. However, we have discovered a small tablet that can be placed in water that can fight water related illnesses such as diarrhea, Cholera, and Typhoid. With their low cost, this can be a option for many countries with water scarcity and unclean water.

Sincerely, The Russian Delegation

Msg 769

From Japan to Russia

To the Russian Delegation

Japan agrees that this small tablet will help with these water-born diseases. But what exactly is this tablet? Can you please be more specific. Thank you.

From The Japanese Delegation

Msg 804

From Mexico to Russia

To the Russian Delegation,

We have researched the Aquatabs and found that a pack of 30, where each tablet treats 20 L of water each, costs \$18.99 US, or 615.01 Russian Rubles. This could very well help water purification in poorer countries.

Sincerely,

The Mexican Delegation.

Msg 805

From US to All

To the Russian Delegation,

We agree that Iodine and other purification tablets can be very useful, as they can filter out many bacteria and pollutants from water. They are also relatively inexpensive, at around \$7 for 50 tablets.

However, we would like to make one small point, in that LifeStraws are not one-time-use. In fact, LifeStraws can filter up to 18,000 liters of water, which should provide enough drinking water for a family of five for three years. It does not work for bathing and cleaning water, though, which is where the tablets can come in very handy. Here is a website about LifeStraws, so that you can see our information: <http://www.lifestraw.org.uk/LifeStraw.html>

Sincerely,
The US Delegation

Msg 839

From Japan to US

To The US Delegation,

We agree that you are right with Lifestraws. They can be really useful coming from the website you shared. Maybe Lifestraws and the tablets are a good thing to use until a great idea can be found.

Japanese Delegation

Msg 840 (How could you respond?)