

• Decoding Communication Styles

There are three methods of communication (refer to the transparency or slide in presentation).

1. A = touch – oriented
2. B = verbal – oriented
3. C = task – oriented

You should remember:

1. A person's primary orientation is determined by the highest score on the quiz.
2. The secondary orientation is determined by the second highest score on the quiz.
3. Some people will have scores that are very close or may use a different communication under different circumstances.

It is important that you understand the following terms:

Communication --- the way one sends and receives messages of **acceptance, affection, and appreciation.**

Discuss the following chart. Additional information and case studies are found in the information pages following the lesson plan.

Term	Symbol	Description Words
Touch	Hand	Hugging Holding hands Physically close
Verbal	Ear and Mouth	Sharing one's feelings Listening Heart-to-heart talks Caring words Meaningful discussion
Task	Eye	Achievement Accomplishment Hard work Status things

The greatest human emotional need is **ACCEPTANCE**. This is especially true in a marriage. The question "Do you love me?" translates to "Do you accept me? In spite of all my fears and faults will you stay with me? If I am totally revealed to you, all my good and bad, can I trust you to love me and care for me? By using the love language you can learn to communicate this complete kind of acceptance to your loved ones.

- **You may want to ask your students "Is there any other situation you can see that knowing someone's personal communication style would be useful?"**

- **Where Does Your Communication Style Come From?**

Your communication style or love language comes from a reflection of or reaction to your home life. Some people reflect their home life in their love language. If your mother is task-oriented person and you are also a task-oriented person you **reflect** your home love language. If, on the other hand, your mother is task-oriented and you are touch-oriented, you **reacting** to your home love language. One is not better or worse, but it is important to recognize that you do or do not speak the same love language as those around you. Most people have learned their love language –so it can be changed. However, change is not what is needed, **understanding** is.