



Communications

Merit Badge Worksheet

2008 Rev. Created
by Craig Long 2010

Scouts Name _____

Date _____

Counselor's Name _____

Counselor's Phone # _____

Complete

1. Do ONE of the following:

a. For one day, keep a log in which you describe your communication activities.

Keep track of the time and different ways you spend communicating, such as talking person-to-person, listening to your teachers or the radio, watching television, reading books, and other print media, and communicating online. Report what you did. _____

How can you improve your communication skills? _____

b. For three days, keep a journal of your listening experiences. Identify one example of each of the following, and discuss with your counselor when you have listened to:

1. Obtain information. _____

2. A persuasive argument _____

3. Appreciate or enjoy something _____

4. Understand someone's feelings _____

c. In a small-group setting, meet with other scouts or with friends. Have them share personal stories about significant events in their lives that affected them in some way. Take note of how each scout participates in the group discussion and how effective each one is in telling his story. Report what you have learned, and how did it change the way you think? _____

d. List as many ways as you can think of to communicate with others (face-to-face, by telephone, letter, e-mail, fax). For each type of communication explain an in-

stance when that method might not be appropriate or effective. _____

Complete

2. Do ONE of the following:

a. Think of a creative way to describe yourself, using, for example, a collage, short story or autobiography, drawing or series of photographs, or a song or skit. Using the aid you created, make a presentation to your counselor about yourself. Date Completed _____

b. Choose a concept, product, or service in which you have great confidence. Build a sales plan based on its good points. Your Idea ? _____

Try to persuade the counselor to agree with, use, or buy your concept, product or service. After your sales talk, discuss with your counselor how persuasive you were. Tell how you think you did. _____

How could you improve ? _____

Complete

3. Write a five-minute speech. Give it at a meeting of a group.

Topic: _____

Ideas: _____

Resources: _____

Opening: _____

Body: _____

Closing: _____

Complete

4. Interview someone you know fairly well, like, or respect because of his or her position, talent, career or life experiences. Who did you interview? _____

Listen actively to learn as much as you can about the person. Then prepare and deliver to your counselor an introduction of the person as though this person were to be a guest speaker, and include reasons why the audience would want to hear this person speak. Explain how you invite them to speak to a group of scouts. _____

Complete

5. Attend a public meeting (city council, school board, debate) approved by your counselor where several points of view are given on a single issue. Practice active listening skills and take careful notes of each point of view. What topics were brought up? _____

Present an objective report that includes all points of view that were expressed, and share it. _____

Complete

6. With your counselor's approval, develop a plan to teach a skill or inform someone about something. Prepare teaching aids for your plan. Carry out your plan. With your counselor, determine whether the person has learned what you intended. Tell about your plan, and how you carried it out. _____

Complete

7. Do ONE of the following;

a. Write to the editor of a magazine or your local newspaper to express your opinion or share information on any subject you choose. Send your message by fax, email or regular mail. Date Completed _____

b. Create a web page for your scout troop, school, or other organization. Include at least one article and one photograph or illustration, and one link to some other web page that would be helpful to someone who visits the web page you have created. It is not necessary to post your web page to the internet, but if you decide to do so, you must first share it with your parents and counselor and get their permission. Date Completed _____

c. Use desktop publishing to produce a newsletter, brochure, flier or other printed material for your scout troop, class at school, or other group. Include at least one article and one photograph or illustration. Date Completed _____

Complete

8. Plan a troop court of honor or campfire program. Have the patrol leaders' council approve it, then write the script and prepare the program. Serve as master of ceremonies. Tell about your experience. _____

Complete

9. Learn about opportunities in the field of communication. Choose one career in which you are interested and discuss the major responsibilities of that position and the qualifications, education, and preparation it requires. _____
