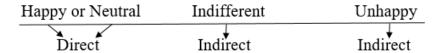
Organization of Business Messages

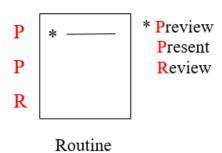
Note: This document should only be used as a reference and should not replace assignment quidelines.

Business messages can be organized in different ways, depending on the expected reaction of the reader. This handout illustrates when to use these three different options.



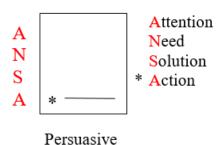
Happy or Neutral Reaction—Direct

When a positive reaction is expected, as in a routine or good-news message, the main idea of the message should be direct and immediate. This organization is called Preview, Present, Review (PPR). The main idea is stated as a preview in the first paragraph, presented in detail throughout the message, and reviewed at the end.



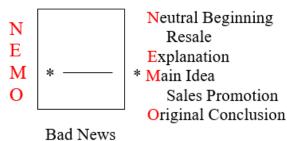
Indifferent Reaction—Indirect

When an indifferent reaction is expected, as in a persuasive message, the main idea should be at the end of the message. This organization is called Attention, Need, Solution, Action (ANSA). Attract the reader's attention, establish a need for your request, propose your solution, and request the action from the reader (main idea).



Unhappy Reaction—Indirect

When an unhappy reaction is expected, as in a bad news message, the main idea should be hidden within the message. This organization is called Neutral Beginning, Explanation, Main Idea, and Original Conclusion (NEMO). Start neutral and friendly, and then include an explanation with the main idea hidden within. Conclude with an original and forward-looking conclusion to maintain goodwill.



*=main idea

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