

TOOL



If there are communication difficulties...

Here are some steps you might consider taking, if you and your student have some difficulty understanding what each other says (e.g. if either of you speaks English with an accent that the other isn't used to):

- using the relevant feature of MS Word to annotate soft copies of your student' work to avoid any difficulty regarding interpretation of your handwritten comments,
- agreeing that both of you will try to speak a little more slowly and avoid or explain any unfamiliar different words,
- encouraging your student to record the conversation, so that it can be replayed later,
- asking your student to email some key questions to you before each meeting, and encouraging your student to seek support and advice from relevant support services in your university and other dissertation students in your School, who might have experienced similar difficulties.

Original Source: [Improving HDR Supervisor Practice](#) (G1.3 Effective supervisor-student communication (adapted from GRIP Module 3)

Modified for use with coursework dissertation students: Lynne Roberts, Curtin University, Lynne.Roberts@curtin.edu.au

Modified Version Source: <http://www.dissertationsupervision.org/>

