

Created by MPEC srl

B2 Level Language & Communication Coaching

Navigating Beliefs and Biases in the Workplace

Handout

Here's a list of key vocabulary words along with their definitions. These terms will help you better understand the concepts discussed in Julia Galef's TED Talk "Why you think you're right -- even if you're wrong," and apply them in a business English context.

- Bias - A tendency to favour or against something or someone, often in a way considered to be unfair.
- Scout Mindset - An approach to information characterized by the desire to see things as they are for the sake of getting accurate information, rather than defending one's preexisting beliefs.
- Soldier Mindset - A mental stance geared towards defending one's own ideas and attacking those of others, akin to a soldier fighting for their side.
- Motivated Reasoning - The process of unconsciously forming conclusions and beliefs based on personal desires or outcomes, rather than objective evidence.
- Cognitive Bias - A systematic error in thinking that affects the decisions and judgments that people make, often occurring due to the brain's attempt to simplify information processing.
- Prejudice - Preconceived opinion or judgment towards people, objects, or situations, often based on stereotypes, without actual experience or knowledge.
- Open-mindedness - The willingness to consider new ideas and opinions, especially those that contrast with one's own beliefs.
- Curiosity - A strong desire to learn or know something, driving individuals to explore and seek out information.

- Critical Thinking - The objective analysis and evaluation of an issue in order to form a judgment, crucial for rational decision-making and problem-solving.
- Ego - A person's sense of self-esteem or self-importance, which can sometimes interfere with the ability to assess situations and information objectively.
- Exoneration - The act of officially clearing someone from blame or fault, especially after consideration of the evidence.
- Unjust - Not based on or behaving according to what is morally right and fair.
- Detachment - The state of being objective or neutral, especially emotionally, allowing for clearer judgment and analysis of facts.
- Perspective - A particular attitude towards or way of regarding something; a point of view.
- Clarity - The quality of being clear, in particular the quality of coherence and intelligibility in thought, communication, or visual presentation.
- Incorporating these terms into the lesson plan will enrich the students' vocabulary, enabling them to engage more deeply with the content of the TED Talk and discussions about cognitive biases, critical thinking, and effective communication in professional settings.