

Time to Think – Nancy Kline

Listening to Ignite the Human Mind

What's it all about?

As the title suggests, this is all about the power of effective listening and how it is recognised as being an essential tool of good management.

The book, quite simply, shows how to unlock assumptions that impede our decisions and activities. Consequently, the listening process helps to alter our patterns and inevitably, our results.

Nancy writes that she first started the process with her team and developed it over time with many clients. Refining and improving what became a 'Thinking Environment'.

There are simple steps to follow: Listening without interruption, Identifying assumptions, Allowing the Thinker to release ideas etc and, the reinforcement of the value of positive thinking is really well explained.

Essentially, the book is engaging and instructive with a good number of anecdotes to make it interesting and fun to read.

How did this book impact me?

We all consider ourselves good listeners – but are we really? Do you often find your mind wondering and not really taking in all the information it should be. I do!! And, working from home often means a lot of my conversations are on the telephone.

I now no longer have the internet open while on the phone or try and carry on with some other job I was doing. I purposefully move away from distractions, have a note book handy and really try to concentrate.

Yes, it takes a bit of habit breaking but, it will be beneficial in the long run.....

My favourite quote in the book "Thinking for yourself is the thing on which everything else depends".



Book Review



Any Limitations of the Book?

I don't see how anyone can limit their listening skills. You do have to think about what you are doing and putting it into practice but that's just a form of habit breaking. If you can create a particular environment then people will think for themselves.

About the Authors

Nancy Kline has spent 35 years developing her ideas on 'independent thinking' into the ground-breaking system of the Thinking Environment. Time to Think began in 1984 and came about as part of Nancy's consulting and teach work in the US. She was born in New Mexico and now lives in England with her husband.

Other books like this:

More Time to Think: The Power of Independent Thinking – Nancy Kline

The Power of Habit: Why We Do What We Do in Life and Business – Charles Duhigg