

Communications Support Agent

Complete intake questions and available response options

28 items: 22 structured questions and six situational scenarios. Wording is transcribed from the source instrument; scenario six comes from the founder-approved profile-builder record.

Choose the permitted response(s) for each question. Free-text items and scenario prompts are written responses. "Other" fields may be completed where offered.

A. Communication profile

Q1 — Communication priorities

When communication matters, which outcomes are most important to you?

Select up to three.

- ☐ Being precise
- ☐ Being direct
- ☐ Being concise
- ☐ Being understood as intended
- ☐ Avoiding unnecessary conflict
- ☐ Preserving the relationship
- ☐ Having enough context
- ☐ Reaching a useful outcome
- ☐ Being able to say exactly what I think
- ☐ Other: _____

Q2 — Explicit versus indirect communication

When someone is communicating something important to you, what usually works best?

Select one.

- ☐ Say exactly what they mean
- ☐ Be mostly direct but allow some implied meaning
- ☐ A mix of direct and indirect communication works well
- ☐ I am comfortable inferring meaning from context
- ☐ It depends strongly on the situation
- ☐ Other: _____

Optional follow-up: What tends to make communication unnecessarily difficult for you?

Q3 — How your communication may be misread

Are there ways your communication is sometimes interpreted differently from what you intend?

Examples might include being perceived as critical, angry, dismissive, overly certain, too blunt, uninterested, or something else.

Free-text response.

Q4 — Implicit or ambiguous meaning

When another person's meaning is not explicit, what best describes you?

Select one.

- ☐ I can usually infer what they mean confidently
- ☐ I can usually infer it, but I prefer confirmation
- ☐ I often see several plausible meanings
- ☐ I find it difficult to know which interpretation is most likely
- ☐ My ability varies considerably by context
- ☐ Other: _____

Q5 — Information format

For complex information, which formats generally help you understand it best?

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Short summary first
- ☐ Structured categories
- ☐ Step-by-step explanation
- ☐ Bullet points
- ☐ Detailed prose
- ☐ Comparison table
- ☐ Examples
- ☐ Visual explanation
- ☐ Questions and discussion
- ☐ Recommendation first, reasoning second
- ☐ Reasoning first, recommendation second
- ☐ Other: _____

Q6 — Processing and response pace

When dealing with something complicated or important, which support is useful?

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Give me the information and let me think
- ☐ Break the issue into smaller parts
- ☐ Ask one question at a time
- ☐ Let me discuss it interactively
- ☐ Avoid rushing me toward a decision
- ☐ Summarize where we have reached before continuing
- ☐ Processing time is rarely an issue for me
- ☐ Other: _____

B. Decision-support profile

Q7 — Presenting alternatives

When I need to choose among alternatives, I find these most useful:

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Clearly defined options
- ☐ Pros and cons
- ☐ Risks and consequences
- ☐ Likelihood of each outcome
- ☐ A recommended option
- ☐ Questions that help clarify what matters to me
- ☐ A comparison against explicit criteria
- ☐ Knowing what happens next
- ☐ Discussing the options interactively
- ☐ Other: _____

Q8 — Recommendation strength

When the evidence supports one option more strongly than the others, what should the AI usually do?

Select one.

- ☐ Give me the recommendation directly
- ☐ Recommend it, but also show the strongest alternative
- ☐ Explain the analysis and let me decide without recommending
- ☐ Ask me questions before recommending
- ☐ It depends on the consequences of the decision

Q9 — Uncertainty in decisions

When there is not enough evidence to know the best answer, what should the AI do?

Select up to three.

- ☐ Say clearly that the answer is uncertain
- ☐ Estimate likelihoods where possible
- ☐ Explain what evidence is missing
- ☐ Present the strongest competing interpretations
- ☐ Ask questions that could reduce uncertainty
- ☐ Recommend the safest option
- ☐ Recommend the most likely option
- ☐ Delay recommendation until more information is available
- ☐ Other: _____

Q10 — Good and bad decision conditions

Are there conditions under which you make decisions particularly well or poorly?

Consider: time of day; fatigue; stress; anger or frustration; time pressure; sensory environment; unexpected change; having too much or too little information; interpersonal conflict.

Two free-text fields.

I tend to make better decisions when...

I tend to make worse decisions when...

C. State and context modulation

Q11 — What changes under pressure?

When you are stressed, frustrated, angry, tired, overloaded, or under significant pressure, does the way you communicate or make decisions change?

Select one.

- ☐ No meaningful change
- ☐ Slightly
- ☐ Moderately
- ☐ Substantially
- ☐ It depends on the type of pressure

Optional follow-up: What tends to change?

Q12 — Conditions that increase communication difficulty

Which conditions can make communication, interpretation, or decision-making harder for you?

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Too little information
- ☐ Too much information
- ☐ Time pressure
- ☐ Unexpected changes
- ☐ Emotional intensity
- ☐ Conflict
- ☐ Fatigue
- ☐ Noise or sensory distraction
- ☐ Multiple people communicating at once
- ☐ Ambiguous expectations
- ☐ Unfamiliar people
- ☐ High-stakes consequences
- ☐ None of these
- ☐ Other: _____

Q13 — AI support when state is affecting judgment

If the AI detects that frustration, overload, urgency, or emotional intensity may be affecting your reasoning, which actions may be helpful?

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Keep the response shorter
- ☐ Separate facts from interpretations
- ☐ Remind me what is known and unknown
- ☐ Challenge my conclusion before I act
- ☐ Ask what outcome I actually want
- ☐ Show the likely perspective of the other person
- ☐ Give me more context
- ☐ Reduce the number of choices
- ☐ Recommend waiting before acting
- ☐ Do not change its behavior unless I ask
- ☐ Other: _____

Q14 — Context-specific differences

Does the support you want from AI differ across contexts?

For each relevant context, describe anything the AI should know.

Optional contextual text for each relevant context.

- ☐ Work/professional communication
 - ☐ Unfamiliar people
 - ☐ Close relationships
 - ☐ Conflict
 - ☐ Important decisions
 - ☐ Public/social-media communication
 - ☐ Other: _____
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D. AI behavior calibration

Q15 — Interpreting uncertain intent

When you ask the AI what another person probably meant and the evidence is weak, what should it do?

Select one; optional secondary preference.

- ☐ Give the most likely interpretation
- ☐ Give the most likely interpretation and alternatives
- ☐ Explain that there is not enough evidence to know
- ☐ Ask me questions before interpreting
- ☐ Represent the possibilities as likelihoods or risks
- ☐ Other: _____

Optional secondary preference: _____

Q16 — Two-way interpretation

Should the AI explain how another person might interpret your words or behavior as well as helping you interpret theirs?

Select one.

- ☐ Usually
- ☐ Only when misunderstanding seems likely
- ☐ Only when consequences are significant
- ☐ Only when I ask
- ☐ Rarely

☐ Other: _____

Q17 — Challenge policy

If the AI thinks your interpretation or proposed action may be wrong or poorly supported, when should it challenge you?

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Whenever it sees a meaningful weakness
- ☐ Explain the concern and alternatives
- ☐ Ask questions before challenging
- ☐ Challenge only when consequences are significant
- ☐ Challenge more strongly when evidence contradicts me
- ☐ Challenge less when the issue is subjective or low-stakes
- ☐ Do not challenge unless I ask
- ☐ Other: _____

Q18 — Correctness versus outcome

If your factual position is defensible but pursuing it may damage the outcome you actually want, what should the AI do?

Select one.

- ☐ Focus on factual correctness
- ☐ Always point out the likely outcome trade-off
- ☐ Raise the trade-off when it is material
- ☐ Recommend the approach most likely to achieve my objective
- ☐ Ask me which matters more before proceeding
- ☐ Other: _____

Q19 — Before rewriting your communication

Before rewriting something you have written, what should the AI normally do?

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Identify what I am trying to achieve
- ☐ Tell me how the original may be perceived
- ☐ Preserve my wording wherever possible
- ☐ Correct only clear problems
- ☐ Suggest alternatives rather than automatically changing it
- ☐ Produce the strongest version for the objective
- ☐ Explain important trade-offs

☐ Other: _____

Q20 — What should remain recognizably yours?

What qualities of your communication should the AI preserve even when helping you communicate more effectively?

Free-text response.

Q21 — Adaptation versus authenticity

If changing your communication would probably make an interaction easier but would also make it feel less authentic, what should the AI usually do?

Select one.

- ☐ Optimize for the easier interaction
- ☐ Preserve my original style
- ☐ Show both versions and explain the trade-off
- ☐ Recommend one but let me decide
- ☐ Ask me each time
- ☐ Other: _____

Q22 — Unwanted AI behavior

What should this AI avoid doing when it supports you?

Examples might include agreeing automatically, being patronizing, overexplaining, changing your tone too much, suppressing disagreement, assuming motives, or treating one communication style as inherently better.

Free-text response.

E. Scenario calibration

The scenarios are not diagnostic. For each situation, respond to the follow-up questions in your own words.

S1 — Ambiguous interpersonal message

Someone replies: "Fine. Do whatever you think is best."

1. What meanings seem plausible?
2. Which interpretation would you lean toward, if any?
3. How confident are you?
4. What should the AI do before helping you respond?

Response: _____

S2 — Frustrated outgoing message

You are frustrated and are about to send: “We've discussed this three times. I don't understand why this is still unclear.”

1. Would you want the AI to intervene?
2. What should it tell you?
3. Should it rewrite the message automatically, suggest an alternative, or leave it unchanged?
4. What outcome should it optimize for?

Response: _____

S3 — Pattern or systemic conclusion

One important deadline was missed. You conclude: “The whole delivery model is failing.”

1. What should the AI do first?
2. Should it challenge the conclusion?
3. What evidence should it distinguish?
4. At what consequence level should it intervene?

Response: _____

S4 — Authenticity trade-off

Your message is accurate and clear. The AI believes a warmer version would probably get a better response.

1. Should it change the message?
2. Should it explain the trade-off?
3. Should it show both versions?
4. Who should make the final decision?

Response: _____

S5 — Overload and too many options

You are overloaded and facing six possible actions.

1. Should the AI reduce the options?
2. Should it recommend one directly?
3. Should it ask questions first?
4. How much reasoning should it show?
5. Should it challenge your initial preference if it appears weak?

Response: _____

S6 — Two-way mismatch

You believe another person is being evasive. They may believe you are being overly demanding.

1. How should the AI help you understand both sides?
2. Should it help you explore how your communication may be landing?
3. Should it identify reciprocal misunderstanding where plausible?
4. How should uncertainty be represented?

Response: _____

Instrument sources

Q1–Q22 and S1–S5: AI Calibration v0.2 (research draft, October 7, 2026). S6: Profile Builder v1, founder-approved reciprocal misunderstanding scenario. Response-choice registry: `contracts/v0.1/instrument_registry_v01.json`. These are participant-facing intake materials; subsequent guided interpretation and rule approval are separate steps.