

Face to Face

SPEECH VS WRITING

When you speak or are spoken to face-to-face, you share a real time presence with your listener. This enables facial expression and body language to become part of the communication. Also, immediate clarification and revision is possible. No less an authority than the philosopher Plato (ironically) wrote his works in the form of dialogs, and they express the sentiment that, everything else being equal, this human presence is what makes the pliable spoken word superior to the more fixed written word.

In our age of cell phones, are words spoken in physical space still superior to words spoken in electronic video space?

