

Source of noise	Explanation	Prevention
Conversational	<p>Sometimes we are so completely prepared to hear one thing that we don't actually grasp what is being said in reality.</p> <p>Sometimes an interlocutor is quite vague and we do not understand him or her.</p> <p>It is possible that we misinterpret body language or fail to understand an accent.</p> <p>These are only a few examples of conversational noise.</p>	<p>Do not leave any room for misinterpretation.</p> <p>Briefly recapitulate after giving a long answer.</p> <p>If you are not sure about what the recruiter means, rephrase him or her to check if you have understood correctly.</p>
Physiological	<p>Different people have different physical qualities. One person has got better eyesight than somebody else.</p> <p>One conversational partner might have a shorter attention span than another. It is possible that the person I am having a telephone conversation with, has got poor eyesight and will be unable to read the blurry fax I promised to send...</p> <p>People's reliance upon the predictability of others is often the cause of noise.</p>	<p>Speak clearly and make eye contact during the interview.</p>
Psychological	<p>If you are feeling unsure or if you are under stress, you might interpret messages incorrectly.</p>	<p>Do not accept double meanings over literal interpretations.</p>
Cultural	<p>Cultural differences can sometimes destroy job interviews. In Asian cultures, looking down is showing respect, but in the United States this would be interpreted as a sign of being uninterested.</p> <p>Another example:</p> <p>An young Belgian engineer is invited for a job interview in Tokyo. He attends the interview in best brown suit and because he is so anxious, he starts discussing his CV immediately.</p> <p>During the interview, the recruiter is silent quite often. Wanting desperately to make a good impression, the Belgian applicant smiles nervously and introduces various conversational topics. He looks out the window and points in the distance, to indicate how impressed he is with the size of the city.</p> <p>Had the applicant studied the Japanese style of business, he would not have made several fundamental errors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · When doing business, men should wear black conservative suits; · Discussing business, before having 	<p>Before you apply for a job in another country, check the local customs. There are plenty of websites and books that will keep you from making vital errors.</p>

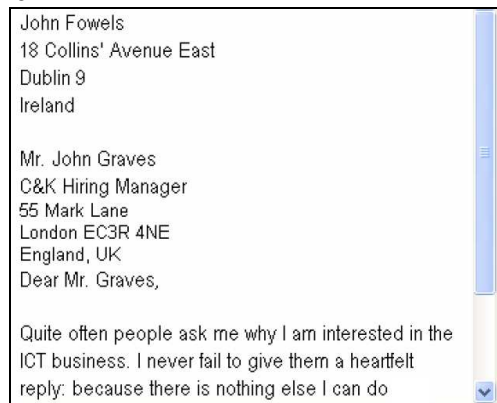
- exchanged business cards, is a vital error;
- Pointing is very rude and unacceptable;
- Silences are no problem. If the host is silent, do not try to make him talk;
- Smiling can easily be understood as an expression of displeasure.

Political Political differences can ruin an otherwise successful interview. Do not mention politics. Stay clear of the subject.

Economic If you mention the salary you'd wish to earn, your recruiter might think you're only out for the money. Recruiters want people who are motivated because of the job itself, not because of the money. Don't mention remuneration unless you are specifically asked about it.

Technological Sometimes noise has nothing to do with misunderstandings. Technology can sometimes cause breakdowns in communication. There is no use continuing electronic communication if it transforms the meaning.

Most likely, a hiring manager with a deadline will not bother to read this e-mailed cover letter any further. Send documents over the internet in pdf-formats. If you're having a telephone interview and the line is not clear, hang up politely.



If the hiring manager had read on a little further, he would have discovered the cover letter of a highly motivated candidate.

