

INNER MEETS OUTER

#### INNER MEETS OUTER

# Hello!

We know firsthand how tough it can be to communicate in a relationship. Despite our love and best intentions, we've hit our share of bumps along the way, struggling at times to truly understand and connect with each other. It's a journey we're still on, learning, struggling, and growing with each step.

That's exactly why we created this workbook. We wanted to share the tools and insights that have helped us, hoping they can make your path a little smoother. Let's explore this together, embracing both the challenges and the victories in communication.

Here's to growing, together.

With LOVE,

Daniel & Jayde

innermeetsouter.com @inner\_meets\_outer

# CONTENTS

Introduction	2
About this workbook	5
About us	6
Transform Conflict into Deeper Love: Step 1	7
Transform Conflict into Deeper Love: Step 2	8
Transform Conflict into Deeper Love: Step 3	9
Transform Conflict into Deeper Love: Step 4	10
Sum up	11
Communication Checklist	12
Understanding Our Emotional Landscape	13
How to Tell Feelings vs. Thoughts Apart	14
Watch Out for Those Thought-Feelings Mix-Ups	16
Let's Keep Growing Together	17
Outro	18

innermeetsouter.com
@inner\_meets\_outer

# Introduction

innermeetsouter.com
@inner\_meets\_outer

NOT

About this workbook

This guide is here to help you talk things out with your partner, whether you're dealing with the aftermath of a disagreement or you've got something big on your mind that you haven't been able to say. Sometimes, these things can be bottled up for days, months, or even years, but it's important to get them out. This guide is all about making those tough conversations a little easier.

## Getting Started

Take some time to go through the guide by yourself. Think deeply about what you really want to say to your partner. This isn't just about getting ready to talk; it's also a chance for you to understand your own feelings better. It's usually best to do this when you're not still heated from a recent argument, so you can think more clearly.

## Talking It Out

Once you've got your thoughts down, pick a good time to sit down with your partner and go through them together. It's best to do this when both of you are feeling calm and not stressed out. This way, you can talk openly and honestly without judgment.

## Making It Second Nature

The more you use this guide, the easier these kinds of talks will become to a point where the guide will no longer be necessary. It's like learning a new language. Before you know it, you'll both be better at understanding and speaking it. This will make a huge difference in how you communicate and deal with disagreements.



At the heart of my work lies a profound commitment to helping individuals navigate the complex emotional landscapes of their lives and relationships. My own journey through personal challenges along with decades of experience as a teacher and parent have equipped me to empower fellow educators and others to feel confident and worthy in their lives.

Having transformed my most crucial relationships through open communication and empathy, I've experienced the power of vulnerability in forging deeper bonds with my business and life partner.

I also believe in the magic of a good peanut butter snack—because sometimes, it's the little things that make the biggest difference. Ready to spread some love ? Let's dive into making your relationships as awesome as your favorite peanut butter snack.

#### Daniel Meyer [Self-Worth Coach] @danielmeyercoach



#### **Inner Meets Outer**

Our mission is to empower you with agency and gratitude both in your love life and your life at large.



Stumbled upon the wonders of life coaching in 2014 Down Under, and now I'm a certified coach on a mission to help others unleash their potential. Forever learning, exploring globally, and being fluent in both English and Korean, I've had the pleasure of living in Australia and the UK, working with brands like Lululemon, and now spicing things up as the captain of Prana Chai Korea.

Guided by cognitive behavioral coaching, I thrive on uncovering unconscious patterns, reshaping perspectives (hello, reframing!), and revealing possibilities over limitations—my heartfelt mission.

L coach the inner frame of mind to shift and amplify the external landscape.

Jayde Hwang [Empowerment Coach] <u>@Jaaydehwang</u>

with love,

Jougde & Daniel

# Step 1 List some observations that are crucial for you in regards to this conflict.

Leave out all judgments or evaluations! List only the cold, hard facts like a scientist observing the conflict.

## INSTEAD OF

"You are always lazy" (evaluation)

"You don't care about our anniversary" (evaluation)

## TRY THIS

"You didn't wash the dishes" (observation)

"You didn't mention our anniversary this morning" (observation)

Practice your own below

# 

This section is designed to help couples accurately identify and express their feelings. Understanding and communicating emotions clearly is crucial, as it allows each partner to express their inner state without assigning blame.

Distinguish between what you feel and what you think by using "I feel" statements.

INSTEAD OF TRY THIS "I feel neglected". "I think you are neglecting me" "You make me anxious" "I feel anxious". Practice your own below

# Step 3 Express your needs

This section is your go-to for getting better at sharing what's really on your mind and heart with your partner. It's key to realize that speaking up about your needs is crucial because when needs aren't met, that's often when the emotional weather gets stormy.

A little reminder for when you're diving into this: it's not your partner's job to make all your needs come true. Plus, not all needs are going to be healthy for the relationship.

This is all about understanding each other better, not about expecting your partner to be your personal wish-granter.

Steer clear of the blame game by sticking to "I" statements.

INSTEAD OF	TRY THIS	
"You don't understand me"	"I want to feel understood by you."	
"You never spend time with me,"	"I want to feel closer to you. I think spending more time together would help me feel that closeness."	
Dractice your even below		

Practice your own below

And remember, **it's all about asking for what you do want**, **not griping about what you don't**.

# Step 4 Requesting

This section aims to guide couples in making clear, specific, and actionable requests to meet their needs. Formulating and expressing requests is vital for moving toward solutions and creating mutual understanding and cooperation.

Requests are about expressing what we desire without expecting or demanding a specific outcome.

INSTEAD OF

"You have to spend this weekend with me. We always do what you want, and now it's my turn."

### TRY THIS

"I really enjoy spending time with you, and I feel like we haven't had much quality time together lately. Would you be open to spending this weekend together doing activities we both enjoy?"

Practice your own below

# 4 Steps to Transform Conflict into Deeper Love



Here's a quick summary of the 4 steps. With practice, these will become your go-to language when communicating with your partner.

## Communication Checklist

#### **Before Starting a Conversation**

Check in with yourself: *How am I feeling right now?* 

Consider the timing: *Is this a good moment for both of us to talk?* 

Set an intention for the conversation (e.g., to understand, to share, to connect).

#### **During the Conversation**

Practice active listening: *Am I fully present, listening to understand rather than respond?* Use "I" statements to express your feelings and needs (e.g., "*I feel... when... because I need...*").
 Reflect back what you hear to ensure understanding (e.g., "*What I'm hearing you say is... Is that right?*").
 Express appreciation for the other's perspective, even if you disagree.

#### When Discussing a Conflict or Issue

Identify and share observations objectively (e.g., *"I noticed that..."* instead of *"You always...*").

Express your feelings related to the situation without blaming (e.g., "I feel upset" rather than "You upset me").

Clearly state your needs or what's important to you in this situation.

Make a specific, doable request (e.g., "Would you be willing to...?").

#### After the Conversation

Reflect on what went well and what could be improved for next time.

Show gratitude for each other's effort and willingness to communicate.

Take a moment to reconnect and ensure both partners feel heard and understood.

## Wrapping It Up! Understanding Our Emotional Landscape

Mastering our emotions and the ways we communicate about them is a game-changer in any relationship. It's all about realizing that while someone's actions might spark our emotions, they don't get to decide how we feel. Grasping this can seriously free us from waiting on someone else to make us feel okay.

#### **Figuring Out Feelings vs. Thoughts**

Getting clear on what's a feeling and what's a thought can seriously clear up a lot of confusion.

#### Here's the lowdown:



FEELINGS

\*Feelings\* are those internal vibes we get, like joy, frustration, or surprise. They're all about how we're personally reacting to what's going down around us.



#### THOUGHTS

\*Thoughts\* are more like the commentary running through our head. They're our opinions, guesses, or plans about stuff.

## How to Tell Feelings vs. Thoughts Apart

#### FOR EXAMPLE

Thinking *"They're totally unfair"* is your brain weighing in.

#### Feeling

*"I'm really hurt by what happened"* is your heart talking.

Saying "*I feel happy*" or "*I'm bummed out*" is all about feelings.

Dropping "I think it's a bad idea" or "I believe you're off base here" is in thought territory.

# Every moment is an opportunity to change your perspective.

# Watch Out for Those Thought-Feelings Mix-Ups

Sometimes we mix up thoughts and feelings, which can make conversations way trickier.

Like:

"*I feel like you're ignoring me*" is more about guessing what's up than expressing a pure feeling.

Going with *"I feel overlooked*" keeps it about your emotions.

"*I feel you should know what's wrong*" actually shares more about your expectations than how you're feeling.

Saying *"I'm frustrated"* keeps it real with your emotions.

# Let's Keep Growing Together

Think of these steps as more than just tips—they're a whole new way to connect. Every tough talk or misunderstanding is a chance to get closer and understand each other better. It's about making every word and moment count towards building something amazing together.

So, let's keep at it with all the curiosity and kindness we've got. Every bit of effort to understand and connect is a step toward a love that's not just talked about, but truly felt and shared. And hey, let's not forget to sprinkle in some fun and lightness along the way—because what's a journey without a bit of laughter and maybe some shared slices of your favorite peanut buttery dessert?

Today is the beginning of the rest of your life.

ou.

As we come to the close of this workbook, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to you.

Thank you for taking the time, for opening your hearts, and for committing to the journey of deeper understanding and connection within your relationship. Your willingness to explore, reflect, and grow is what makes true transformation possible.

If you've found value in the steps we've walked together and you're eager for more insights, inspiration, and tools to nurture your relationship, stay connected!

## Stay Connected

In to the latest vibes on the <u>"Lovemakers" Podcast</u>

Elevate your inner to expand your outer

- Hit subscribe for the "Inner Meets Outer" Newsletter

. Stay in the loop by following us <u>@inner\_meets\_outer</u>

Explore the magic at innermeetsouter.com

Say Hello 💌 Jayde: jayde@innermeetsouter.com Daniel: daniel@innermeetsouter.com