LANGUAGE IS LIKE PLUMBING, WE ONLY PAY ATTENTION WHEN SOMETHING GOES WRONG
The Crazy English Language!

- Why isn’t phonetic spelled the way it sounds?
- Why do we drive on parkways and park on driveways?
- When we transport something by car it is called a “shipment,” but when we transport something by ship is called “cargo?”
The Crazy English Language!

- Quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and guinea pigs are neither from Guinea nor are a pig.

- Plural of tooth is teeth, plural of booth?

- One goose, two geese, is cheese the plural of choose?

- If teachers taught, why don’t preachers praught?
Funny Language Errors!

True Insurance Statements

• A pedestrian hit me and went under my car.

• Coming home, I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I don’t have.

• I had been driving for 40 years when I fell asleep at the wheel and had an accident.

• To avoid hitting the bumper of the car in front of me, I hit a pedestrian!
Funny Language Errors!

Student Bloopers

- A myth is a female moth
- The Merchant of Venison (Venice)
- Later the Pilgrims crossed the ocean and this was known as the Pilgrim’s Progress
- During the Renaissance American began
Language Riddles

1. How many birthdays does the average man have?
2. Why can’t a man living in Winston-Salem be buried west of the Mississippi?
3. How far can a dog run into the woods?
4. Can you name three consecutive days of the week without naming Sunday, Tuesday or Friday?
5. If you had only one match and entered a room in which there were a kerosene lamp, an oil heater, and a wood burning stove, which would you light first?
Language is Symbolic

- There is only an ____________________ between words and what they mean.

(i.e. my idea of mother is different from yours)
Language is Rule Governed

1. Phonological Rules
2. Syntactic Rules
3. Semantic Rules
4. Pragmatic Rules
Syntactic Rules

- **Syntactic Rules**: Govern the ________ and deal with ____________.

  I can be forever happy—will you let me be yours?
  
  Mary

  vs.

  I can be forever happy. Will you let me be?
  
  Yours, Mary
Semantic Rules

- **Semantic Rules**: Governs the __________ of the statements.

- This allows us to understand the general meaning for rules.

- Examples: Bikes are for riding, books are for reading, men vs. women’s restroom.
Pragmatic Rules

- **Pragmatic Rules**: Govern the way speech ______ in everyday communication. (_________)

I AM REALLY ANGRY!! 😞

“How’s it going?” Is NOT a request for information
Language and Worldview

- **Linguistic Relativism**: Culture is ________________ by the language its members speak.

- ________________: An example of Linguistic Relativism created by linguist Benjamin Whorf and anthropologist Edward Sapir.
DID YOU KNOW THAT SUBURBAN WHITE MALES HAVE OVER 100 WORDS FOR "LAWN"?
The Impact of Language

- Group Presentation!
The Impact of Language

- Names are more than a means of identification, they shape the way we see ourselves.

- Example: Star vs. Estrella 😊
The Impact of Language

- Research has shown that people have somewhat negative impressions on different names (even common names spelled differently) (Mehrabian, 2001).

- In California, over 40% of African American girls have names that not a single Caucasian girl was given. This can suggest solidarity/ethnic pride.
The Impact of Language

• **Affiliation:** We use this term to describe how we use language to “affiliate” with other people (includes vocabulary, rate of speech, pauses etc.)

• __________: Adapting one’s style of communication to match those around him/her.

• __________: Setting yourself apart from others which emphasize differences.
The Impact of Language

- ________________: includes: Hedges, Hesitations, Polite Forms, Tag Questions, Disclaimers.
- These make a person appear less authoritative and even less confident.
Powerless Language Examples

Hesitations
- I’m kinda disappointed...
- I think we should...
- I guess I’d like to...
- Uh, can I have a minute..
- I wish you---er---would...

Polite Forms
- Excuse me, would you please?...
Powerless Language Examples

Tag Questions

- Don’t you think?...
- Does this make sense?...
- I shouldn’t say this...
- You should know...
Sexism & Racism

- ___________: includes words or phrases that emphasize differences between men/women in language.

Examples:
- *Mothered vs. Fathered*
- *Working Mother vs. Working Father*
- *Unmarried Mothers vs. Unmarried Fathers*
Uses and Abuses of Language

- _________________: words and phrases that have more than one commonly accepted definition.

Examples:
- *Teacher Strikes Idle Kids*
- *Man Dies on Toilet.*
Funny Language Errors!

Actual Church Bulletins

- Don’t let worry kill you—let the church help.

- Tuesday at 4 p.m. there will be an ice cream social. All ladies giving milk will please come early.

- Thursday at 5 p.m. there will be a meeting for the “Little Mother’s Club.” All ladies wishing to be little mothers will meet the pastor in his study.
Uses and Abuses of Language

- **Abstract Language:**
  Convenient ways of __________.
  “Sexual Harassment”

- ____________:
  Terms __________ for other words.
  “She kicked the bucket”

**Static Evaluation**
Generalizations that tend to stick even if they are ____________.
“Star is so hyper.”
Uses and Abuses of Language

__________Language: More than one commonly accepted definition. (Thesaurus)
Example: PERIOD

__________: All about the person using it.
BIG vs. SMALL
The Language of Responsibility

- **It Statements**
  Replaces the I with It

  “*It bothers me when you are late*”
  
  vs.

  “*I am worried when you are late*”
The Language of Responsibility

- **But Statements**
  Cancels preceding statement

  “You are a great person, but I think we should see other people.”
The Language of Responsibility

Questions

“What are you doing on Friday night?”
The Language of Responsibility

- **You Language**
  Expresses the _________ of the other person.

  “You are such a slob!”
The Language of Responsibility

- **We Language**

  ________________________.

  “We aren’t keeping this place clean are we?!”

  “We need a solution to this problem.”
What are the major differences between men and women in conversation?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEN</th>
<th>WOMEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Music, current events, sports, business</td>
<td>Personal/Domestic subjects, relationships, family, health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gossip about sports, media personalities</td>
<td>Gossip about family, friends</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Gender: REASONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEN</th>
<th>WOMEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Make conversation fun, joking and good natured teasing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “Like” same sex conversation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Feelings, relationships, personal problems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Talk IS the essence of relationships</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• “Need” same sex conversation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Gender: CONVERSATIONAL STYLE**

<table>
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</table>
| • Interrupt  
• Use judgmental adjectives “Reading can be a drag”  
• Direct, succinct, task oriented | • Ask more questions  
• Use more intensive verbs “he’s REALLY cute”  
• Indirect, elaborate |

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"Reading can be a drag"