

Quick Write...

Take 15 minutes and respond to the following...

- What is the role of language in creating and reinforcing social distinctions, such as class, ethnicity and gender?
- What is the role of language in sustaining relationships of authority? Do people speak the same way to inferiors and superiors in a hierarchy? Does the professional authority speak in the same way as the person seeking opinion or advice? Can control of written language create or reinforce power?

Oct 9-12:32 PM

How can we distinguish language from that which is not language?

- rule governed - ie. "man bites dog" vs "dog bites man"
- shows intentionality / understanding - a yawn in class
- creative and open ended - limitless possibilities

Oct 11-11:59 AM

Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis:

Language determines our experience of reality, and we can see and think only what our language allows us to see and think.

- Inuit people - at least 13 different words for "snow"
- Hopi people - have no words or grammatical expressions for the western idea of "time"

Oct 11-12:10 PM

Language: value and ambiguity

denotation vs connotation

- Terrorist / Freedom Fighter
- US Dept of War (-1946) / US Dept of Defense (1947 - present)
- Flying planes can be dangerous
- Raising the bar

Oct 11-12:21 PM