



Sociolinguistics:
The Right Expression

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Overview



★ **Tailoring language**

- Register
- Audience
- Interpersonal relationship

★ **Turn-taking**

- Informal or interpersonal communication
- Formal communication
- Telephone communication

★ **The use of silent**


- Silence as respect
- Confusion and embarrassment

Tailoring Language


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 - ★ Do we speak to our parents in the same way?

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 - ★ Think about how we speak with our friends?
 - ★ Do we speak to our parents in the same way?
 - ★ At lower levels of proficiency students won't need this skill, but to reach near-native proficiency they will need to be able to tailor your language to specific groups.

Tailoring Language

- ★ **Register:** is a sociolinguistic term and concept that deals with the relationship between social identity and manner of speaking.




A vertical decorative graphic on the left side of the slide features a stack of four books. From top to bottom, the books are white with blue covers, orange, green, and blue. The top book is open, showing its pages. The books are arranged in a slightly overlapping, 3D perspective.

Tailoring Language

- ★ **Register:** is a sociolinguistic term and concept that deals with the relationship between social identity and manner of speaking.
- ★ You can use different way of speaking (or different register) depending on whether one is talking to a **child**, an **animal**, a **spouse**, a **boss**, a **teacher**, a **salesperson**, or a **conference audience**.

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 - ★ There can be different ways of expressing register.
 - **Forms of address**
 - **Grammatical forms**
 - **Word choice**

Tailoring Language

- ★ **Forms of address**
- ★ **The use of pronouns: Formal/informal**



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 - ★ Different ways of referring to an individual.
 - e.g. **Dr. (First name/ Last name)**

Tailoring Language

A vertical decorative graphic on the left side of the slide. It features a stack of books in various colors: a blue book at the top, an orange book in the middle, and a green book at the bottom. The books are slightly offset, creating a sense of depth. The background behind the books is a light blue gradient.

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- ★ Referring neighbors and friends as aunt or uncle by children.

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- ★ In some languages (Japanese, Korean) they use different grammatical forms.
 - e.g. Verb endings, adjectives, etc...
- ★ This is somewhat available in some English sentences such as:
 - **Would you please do it for me?**
 - **How 'bout doin' it f'r me?**

Tailoring Language

- ★ **Word choice**
- ★ The use of slang and contractions (gonna, wanna)...





Tailoring Language

★ **Word choice**

★ The use of slang and contractions (gonna, wanna)...

★ The choice of words for sensitive topics

- **e.g. parts of body**

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 - ★ **Age**
 - ★ **Gender**
 - ★ **Social status**
 - ★ **Genre expectations**
 - ★ **Educational background**





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- ★ **Social status:** Choosing different words and grammars when you speak to high-status people or to ghetto

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 - ★ **Specialization:** it depends on the level of specialization of your listener, and your own level of specialization.

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- ★ Not following the rules of turn-taking can mark you as **rude** and can highlight your **foreignness**.



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 - ★ These kinds of communications tend to have formulaic discourse.
 - ★ Becoming familiar with the formulas used in your foreign language is important to developing formal communication ability.

Turn-taking

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- ★ **Greetings & Partings**



Turn-taking


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- ★ **Telephone communication:** are other forms of communication that differ among languages.
 - ★ Greetings & Partings
 - ★ Starting & Ending a conversation.
 - ★ **e.g. Russians hang up the phone when they are done talking.**

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- ★ (Whispering while someone talking to a group)
- ★ (Ask for permission to speak)

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 - ★ **No expected answer:** Sometimes we are presented, in English, with ultimatums or with rhetorical questions.
 - ★ In both cases, an answer is usually not expected.
 - ★ If an answer is given, it's viewed as rude. In other cultures, this may not be the case.



**Your QUESTIONS and COMMENTS
are warmly welcomed**