Chapter 3

Language
Language Defined

“A collection of symbols governed by rules and used to convey messages between individuals.”

Language is Rule Governed

- Phonological rules
- Semantic rules
- Syntactic rules
- Pragmatic rules

Meaning are in People

- Denotative meaning
- Connotative meaning
- Ogden & Richards’s Triangle of Meaning
Linguistic Determinism

- "Language is a powerful tool that shapes everything in our world, our perceptions, and, thus our reality."

Big Question of the Day!!!!

- How does language construct and/or reflect our reality?
  - Regarding yourself
  - Regarding others
Language “Reflects” Attitudes

- Responsibility statements
  - I-messages
  - “It” statements
  - “Everybody” statements
  - “But” statements

Troublesome Language

- Relative terms – meanings depend upon what the term is compared to.

  FIX: anchor the relative term (word) to a more precisely measurable term.

Disruptive Language

- Fact-opinion confusion
- Fact-inference confusion
Gender & Language

- Content
- Reasons for communicating