



Transcription of

Text and Academic Language

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Hi, my name is Laurel Tucker, and I'm a professor at the Milledgeville campus of Georgia Military College. Today, I'm going to talk to you about the differences between academic language and social language.

First, think about it in terms of the difference between talking in the classroom and talking in your kitchen at home. At Home you're talking with your friends and family, neighbors, different people in your social life, in the classroom you're talking to your teachers, other classmates, visitors. You might be sending an email to the Dean or your advisor so you can understand how it has a lot to do with who you're talking to and what is the point of the conversation. Both types of language are very important to us and the difference between them really depends on what is your goal for your communication?

Are you trying to communicate an idea or a story? Are you trying to argue a point? Are you trying to learn something that happened to you that day? Really what it boils down to is vocabulary and grammar structure in your sentences. So let's talk through both of those. When you're talking about social text language, that's more simple, as informal as the way you are when you're talking face to face with another person, especially a friend or someone that you might know who also has shared some of the similar stories that you have.

You probably use slang in text messages. You would use emojis or pictures to describe what you're talking about. You might go on and on and ease, run on sentences, or you might use sentences that are would be considered fragments if you wrote them in an essay. The short phrases usually, you know, we would say things like like or we use a lot of hand gestures to communicate.

And you don't always use all of those connecting words that you would use in the essay instead of the word verse. You would use the word so, and you might keep it a little bit more simple. Whatever you're trying to think in terms of social language versus academic language. Now, when you're in the academic world, you're in the classroom or later on when you're in the business world or that's where you're going, you're probably going to use more standard grammar rules.

I'm going to think in terms of, you know, how organized your language is, how specialized your language is for the career that you're thinking about. Definitely in the classroom, we have specialized language. We use terminology that you're not going to use other places. You're probably going to have complete sentences, and your teachers will require you to answer questions in a complete sentence rather than in a fragment or with slang or short answers, like just yes or no.

A lot of times you're going to have very specific grammar rules. The difference might be something as as easy as an the social world. You might say me and my friends are going to the movies in the academic world. You would definitely say, My friends and I are going to the movies so you can see the difference in how you might, you know, be more casual in one situation, a little more formal in the other situation.

We definitely use academic language when we are trying to think about facts and logic and to analyze situations and analyze, you know, things that we're reading. Whereas when you're doing social language, you're talking more about feelings and your needs and your wants and your thoughts and things that are more subjective, whereas in academic language you are objective. So that just boils down to the differences between the academic and social language.

Really just come down to your vocabulary and your grammar structure in your sentences. Thank you.