Instructions for Online Discussion Participation

These are the instructions for fulfilling your online participation requirement for LING 156. In-class and online discussion participation is worth 20% of your grade. More importantly, this site is a space for all of us to explore class topics in more depth.

Each student is required to complete a total of 10 blog posts (300-350 words each) to receive full credit for online participation. Stay within the word limit; short posts are often not informative, but long posts discourage readership and interaction.

Every student must also make a total of at least 20 comments (minimum 50 words each) on other students’ blog posts to receive full credit for online participation.

There is no maximum limit on the number of blog posts and comments you can make on each others’ posts. The idea is to generate discussion that will foreground class and section discussions.

Each Monday, Lauren will post 2-3 discussion prompts on her blog on the Ning network site. To access these prompts, logon to:

http://ling156.ning.com/
Members tab → Lauren Hall-Lew → Blog Posts

Read the prompts and choose one to respond to. Then click on the “Blogs” tab and add a new blog entry. Give each blog post a short, unique title (you want to attract your fellow students to read and reply to your post). Begin each blog entry with “Chapter X, Prompt Y” at the beginning of the body of your post. Do not re-post the prompt itself. Use tags as appropriate. Be sure to choose “everyone” under the two Privacy options.

All blog posts are due by the Sunday night, midnight, following the Monday when the prompts are posted. Any posts made after this time will receive no credit. There is no due date for comments, but each student must complete 20 by the end of the quarter.

Blog posts will be graded based on two criteria (1) completion according to the specified criteria listed here, and (2) quality: creativity, insight, thoughtfulness, applications to real world experience, etc.

Ultimately, this online space is meant for you to use: feel free to post news stories, pictures, videos, and anything that you come across that is about language and gender and that the rest of us might enjoy. Have fun with it!

These instructions are posted on Lauren’s Ning blog. If you have trouble logging on, email Lauren at dialect@stanford.edu