Registers of Language

REGISTER

EXPLANATION

Frozen

Language that is always the same. For example:

Lord's Prayer, wedding vows, etc.

Formal

The standard sentence syntax and word choice of

work and school. This register has complete

sentences and specific word choices.

Consultative

Formal register when used in conversation. When

used, the pattern is not quite as direct as formal

register.

Casual

This is the language most often used between

friends. It is generally characterized by a 400 to 800 word vocabulary. Word choice is general, not specific. Conversation is often dependent on non-

verbal assists. Sentence syntax is often

incomplete.

Intimate

This is the language of soul mates or twins. It is

also the language of sexual harassment.