

Analysis and write-up

I will collate the data from the entire class, and then provide the data in spreadsheet format, available on courseweb. Knowledge of Excel or a similar spreadsheet program won't be essential, but it wouldn't hurt to go through a quick tutorial before I post the data (let me know if you'd like a specific format other than Excel). I will also provide a couple of views (charts and/or tables) of the data, for which you will need no extra knowledge of statistics or spreadsheet programs. You can organize and present the data any way you want (using just the charts and tables I give you, adding your own, or just using your own).

Your written report should contain the following (with *approximate* word counts):

1. A short **introduction** summarizing the most important facets of the data and your most important conclusions. 50-75 words.
2. An **explanation** of how you approached respondents and any comments they gave you while they were filling out the assignment or after, and any difficulties or biases you think may be in your data. 100-150 words.
3. A **description** of the patterns you see in the data. In other words, who makes what choices, in which circumstances, more often than others? Are differences big or small? 300-600 words.
4. An **analysis** of why you think these patterns hold, based on our class discussions and readings up to now. You might want to focus on the kinds of questions I've asked in class. If you are unsure, look back in your notes and homeworks at the issues we have focused on. For example, in this section of the course we have been especially concerned with how gender ideologies affect how people interpret and use words and linguistic features differently. In this case, how does a person's understanding of gender ideologies affect how they use *Ms.*?

Here are some questions to consider. DO NOT just answer these questions directly! This is a writing, prose assignment and these questions are to get you started thinking:

- How do these patterns fit into gender ideology?
- Is the use of these address terms a gendered practice? How? Why?
- What gender stereotypes can be connected to the patterns, and what purpose might those stereotypes serve?
- Is ordering organized or constrained in a gendered way (by institution, network, speech activity, speech events, frames, and genres)?
- How do the different address terms position the speakers, and why would those positionings be more or less masculine or feminine?
- What does the use of these terms imply?
- Do these address terms encode a particular kind of 'mapping of the world'? How?

900-1200 words (but highly variable!).

The total length of the assignment should be between 1300-2100 words (approximately 4-6 typed double-spaced pages).

Finally, remember that this assignment is like a test. I am trying to see whether you have learned the concepts we have discussed well enough to apply them to new data. Approach the assignment in some ways as you would an exam!