The Ted Talk video, “What Makes A Word ‘Real’” by Anna Curzan, explains how words are added to dictionaries. She speaks about trends in the English language and how terms are decided if they are an official part of the modern language. She begins with examples of fake words being used daily, including hangry and adorkable. Even though dictionaries are distributed by companies of different understanding, dictionaries are given unquestioned authority. She goes over how words are also taken out of the dictionary, especially controversial terms that lost their popularity. Mrs. Curzan also brings up her experience about deciding on proper sentences and how they should not be based on an opinion. She states that words get into a dictionary only if humans use it daily, but the people behind the dictionary decide on how to use it since some words are problematic.

A point from the ted talk is how unquestioned power is given to dictionaries. However, a dictionary isn’t based on a committee or agency but on how we progress linguistically. Another point is that the same dictionary created by humans, which is paid to predict human language, can be wrong or right, and we will only know once time has passed. This makes it so that the opinion of professionalism doesn't truly matter when deciding if a word can be added to the dictionary, even if the term is selfie or LOL. However, even if the expression is accepted into the dictionary, it might not be respectable to put it into paper in a professional setting.s