

Why we say stuff

Presented & illustrated by=

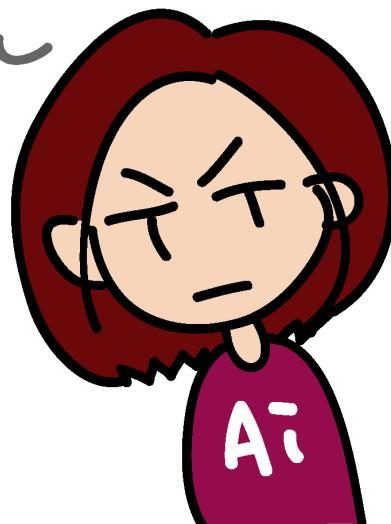
Ai Taniguchi

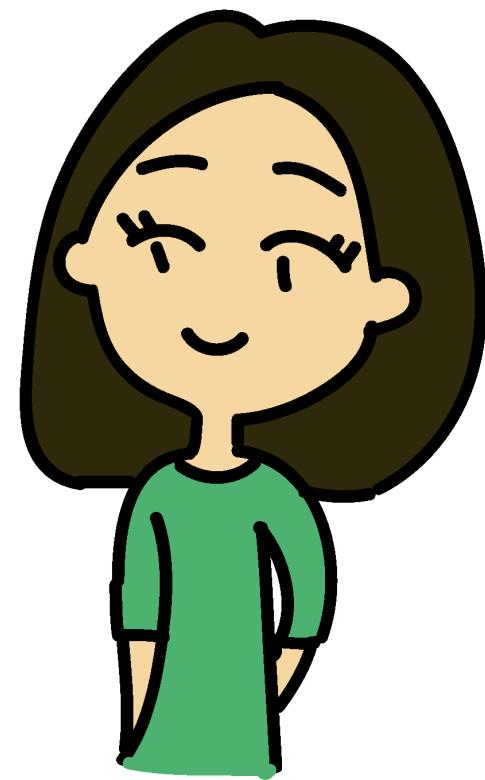
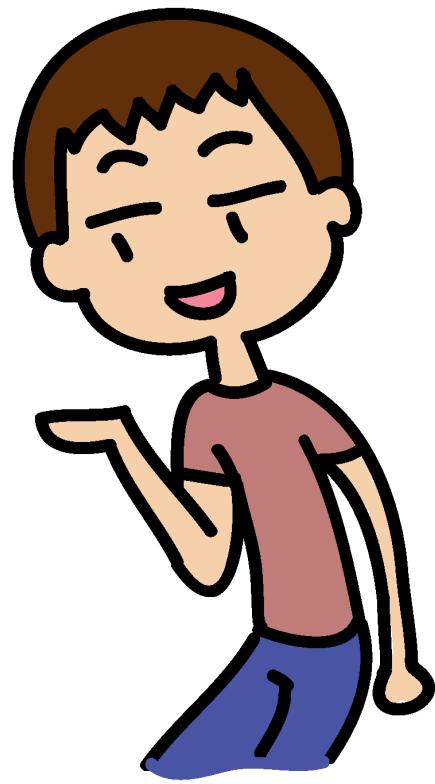
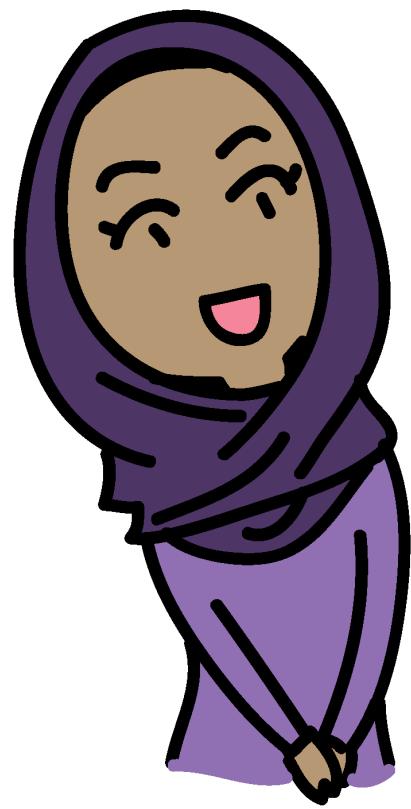
ai.taniguchi@carleton.ca

Carleton University

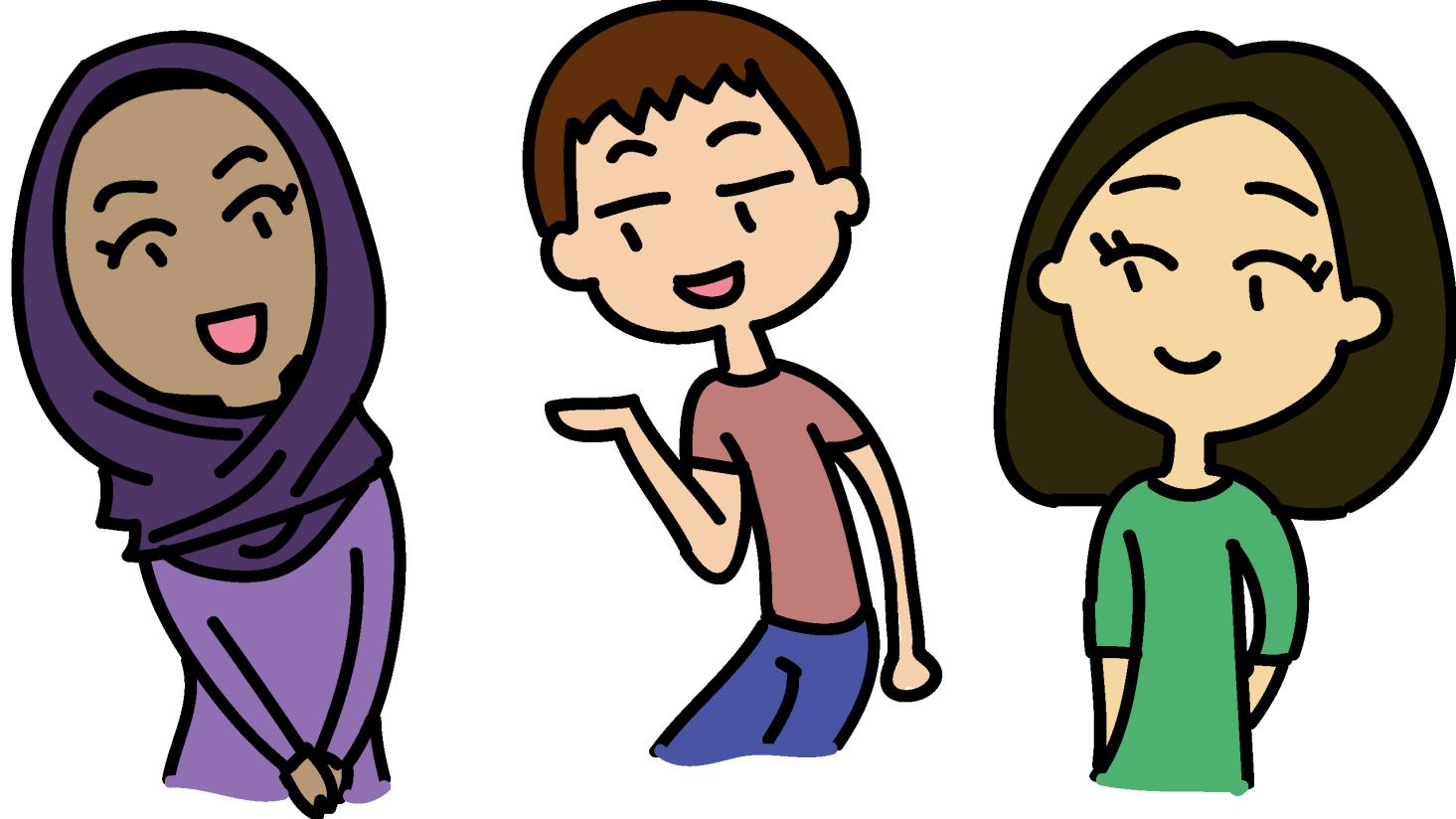
LSA 2019

5-Minute Linguist





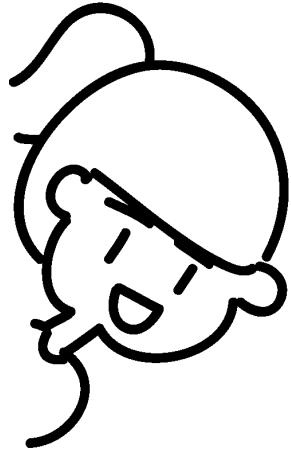
Why do we say stuff?



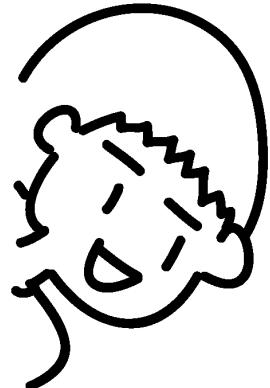
① We're trying to figure out
what kind of world we
live in



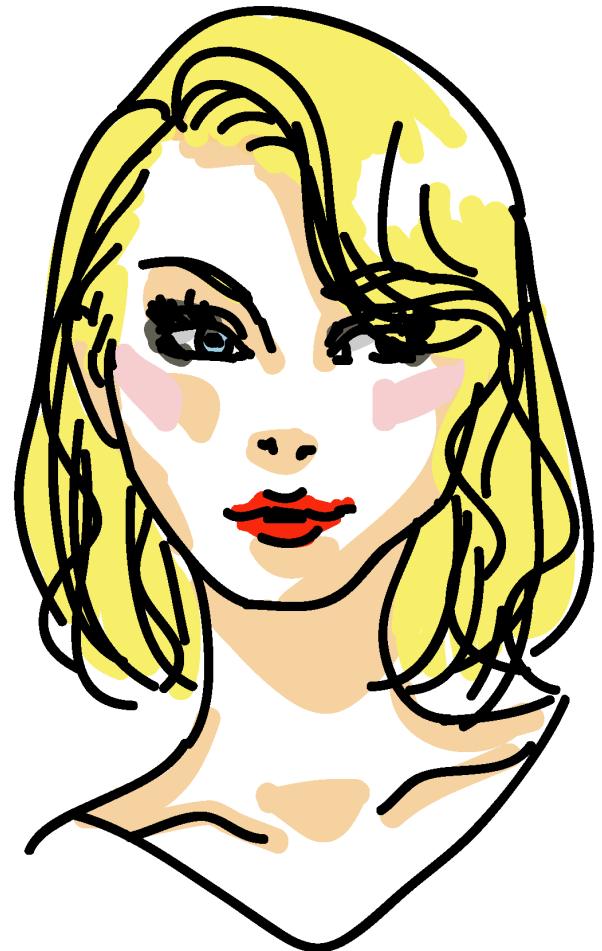
(Stalnaker 1978)

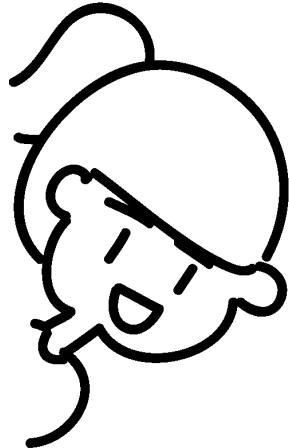


Taylor Swift
is a singer



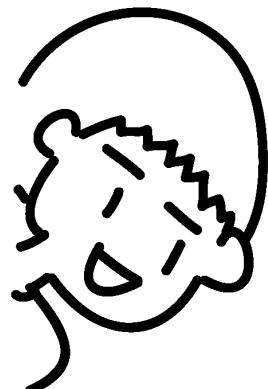
Taylor Swift
is at the LSA





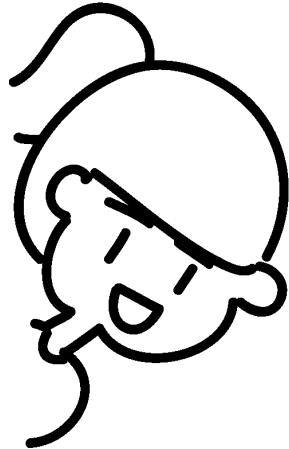
Taylor Swift
is a singer

yep!



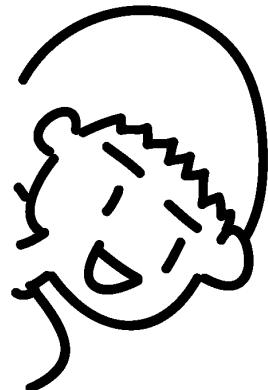
Taylor Swift
is at the LSA

(Farkas & Bruce 2010)



Taylor Swift
is a singer

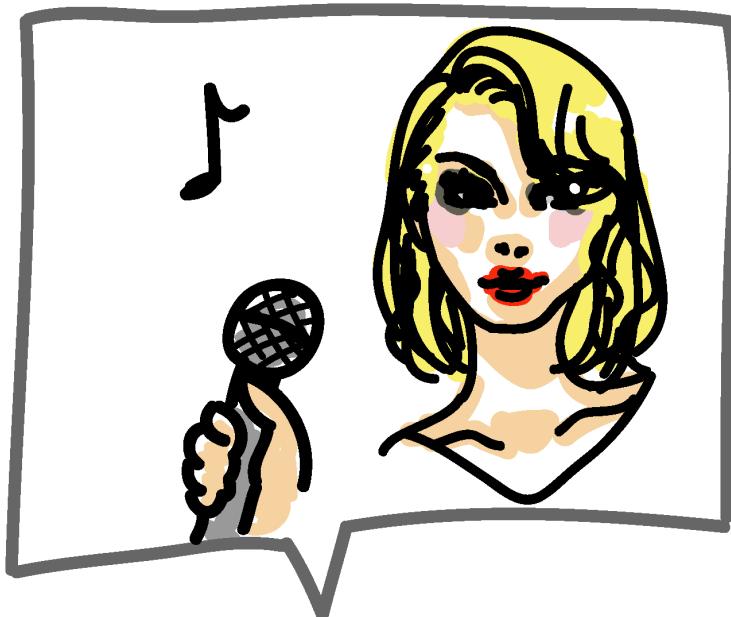
yep!



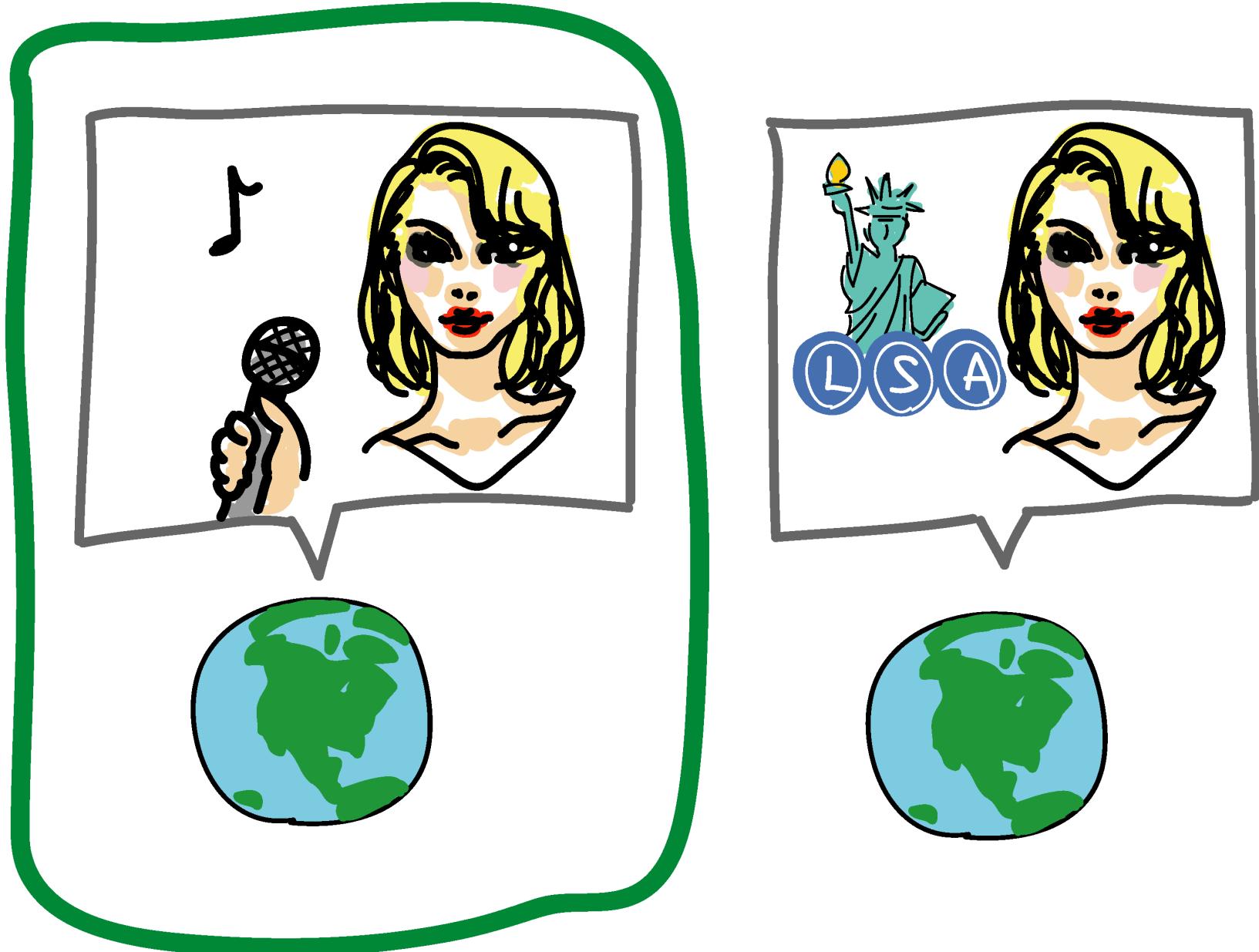
Taylor Swift
is at the LSA

that's
not
true!

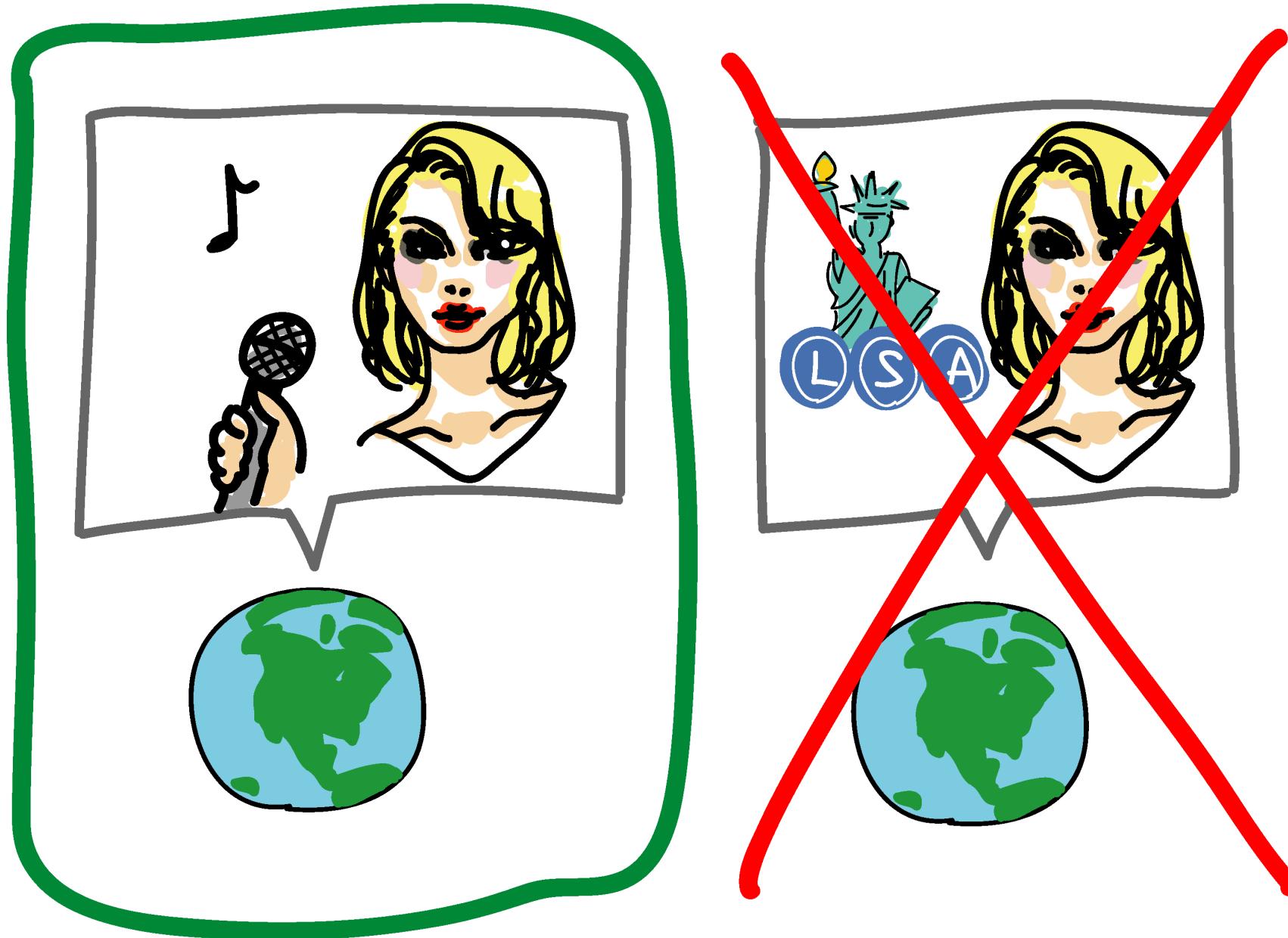
(Farkas & Bruce 2010)



(Stalnaker 1978)



(Stalnaker 1978)



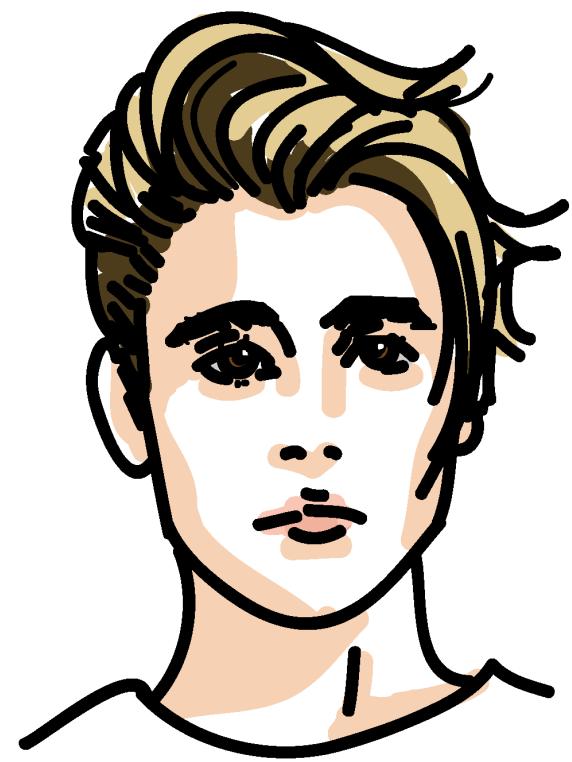
(Stalnaker 1978)

that's
not
true



~~That's~~
~~not~~
~~true~~

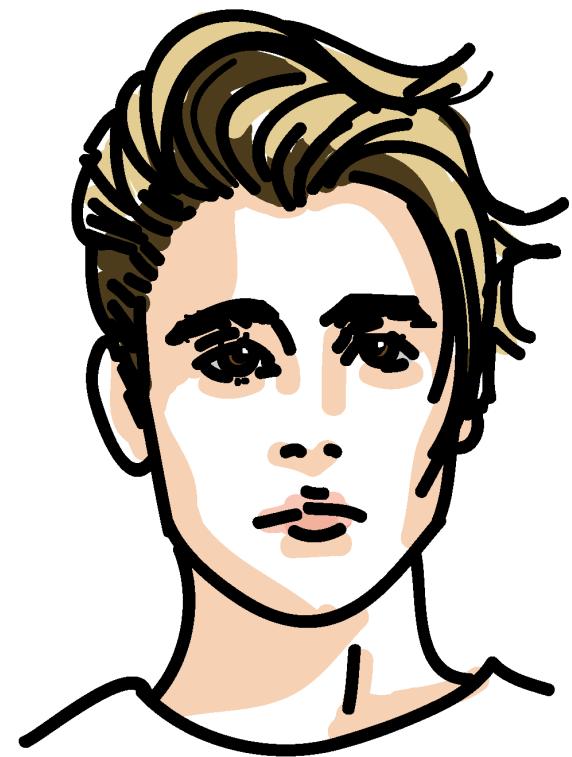




Bieber



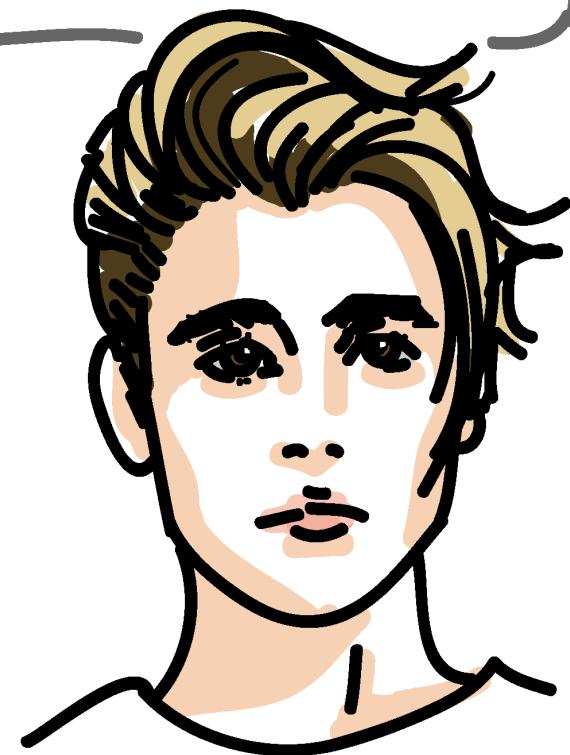
Morgan
Freeman



Bieber 



Morgan Freeman
is pushing
a buggy

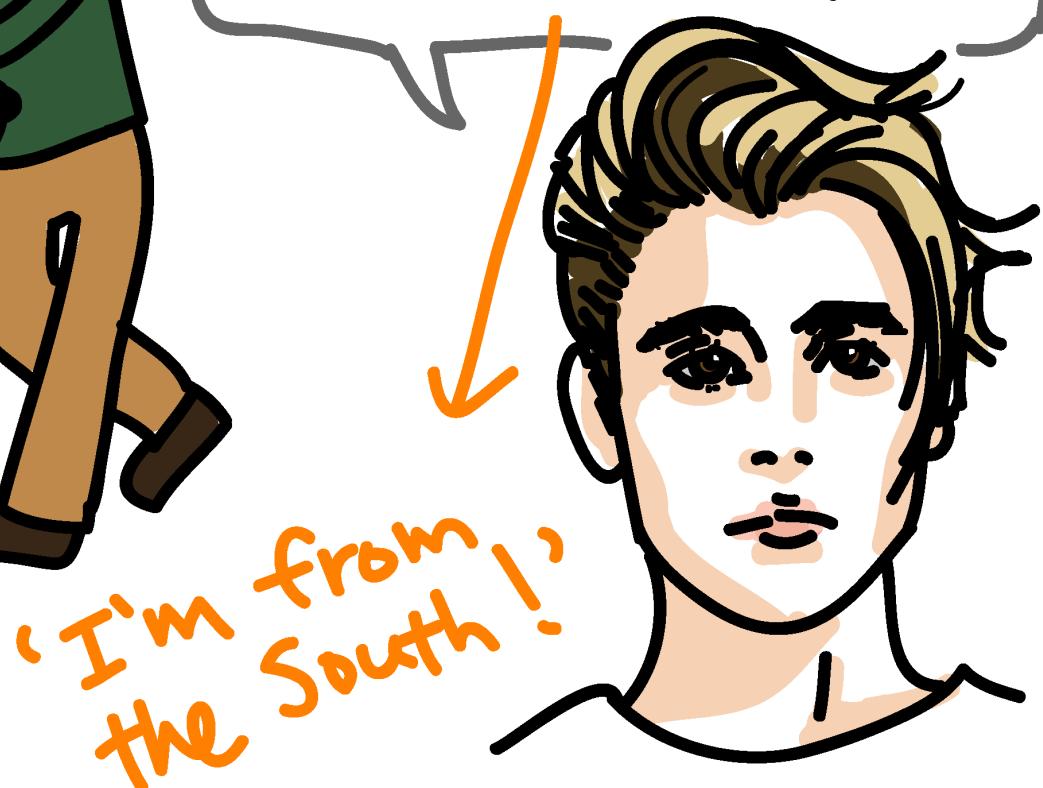


Bieber





Morgan Freeman
is pushing
a buggy



Bieber





Morgan Freeman
is pushing
a buggy

that's
not true!

'I'm from
the South!'



Bieber





That's
not true!

Morgan Freeman
is pushing
a buggy-

'I'm from
the South!'



Bieber



Why do we say stuff?

① We're trying to figure out
what kind of world we
live in

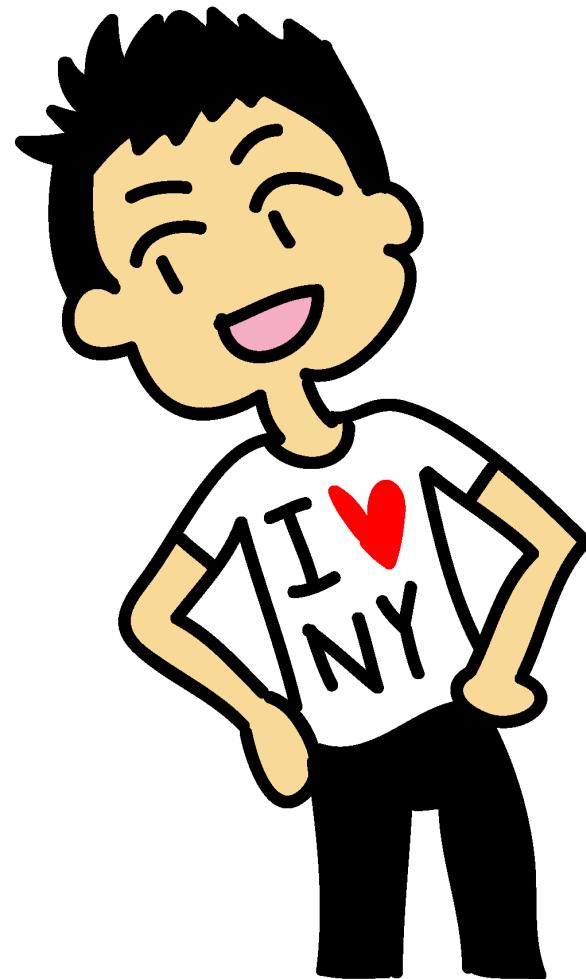
- ① We're trying to figure out what kind of world we live in
- ② We're constructing our identity

(Eckert 1989, 2000, 2008; Ochs 1992)

- ① We're trying to figure out what kind of world we live in
- ② We're constructing our identity
* social meaning

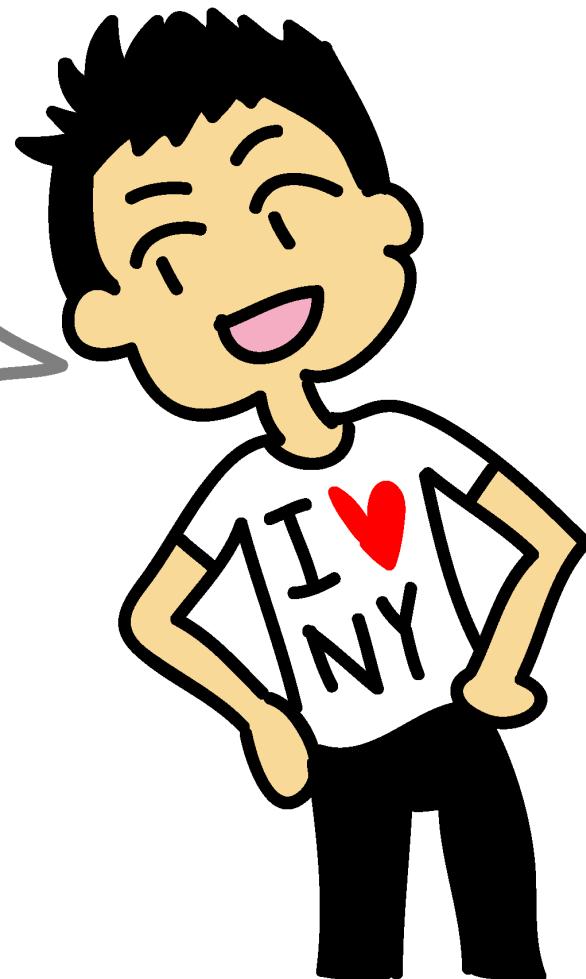
(Eckert 1989, 2000, 2008; Ochs 1992)

Japanese



Japanese

NY-ni itta
NY-to Went
'I went to NY'



Japanese

NY-ni itta -ze

NY-to Went ZE

'I went to NY'



(Uyeno 1972)

(Ochs 1992, Sreetharan 2004)

Japanese

NY-ni itta -nya

NY-to Went -NYA

'I went to NY'

Japanese

NY-ni itta -nya

NY-to Went -NYA

'I went to NY'



(kinsui 2003)

Japanese

NY-ni itta -nya

NY-to Went -NYA

'I went to NY'

(kinsui 2003)

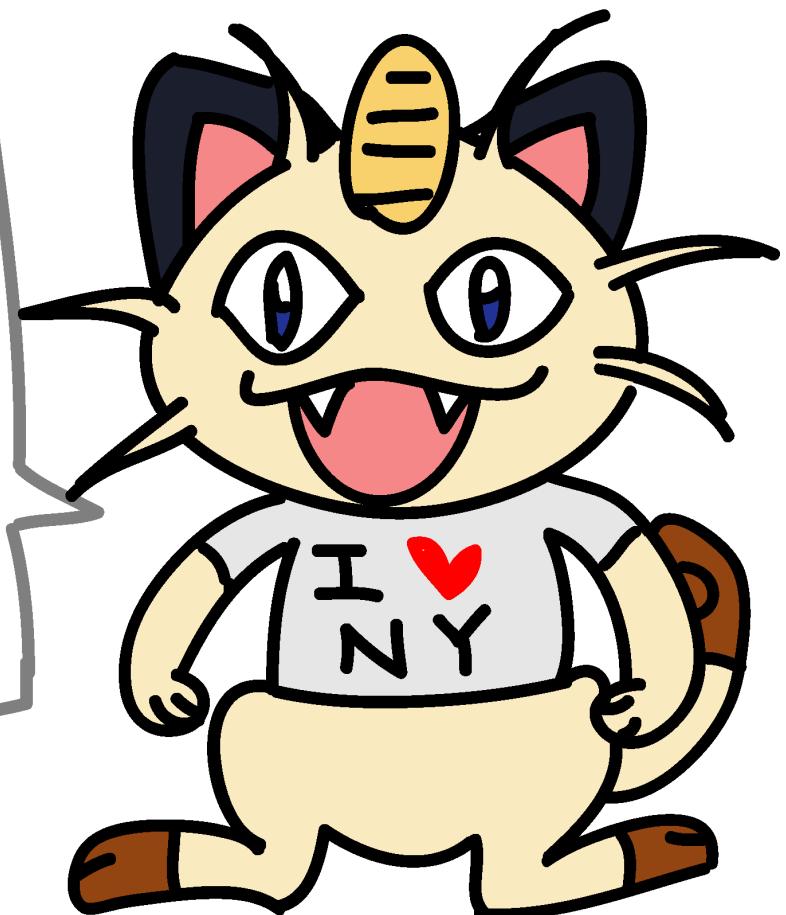


Japanese

NY-ni itta -nya

NY-to Went -NYA

'I went to NY'



(Kinsui 2003, Akizuki 2012)

Japanese

NY-ni itta -nya

NY-to Went -NYA

'I went to NY'



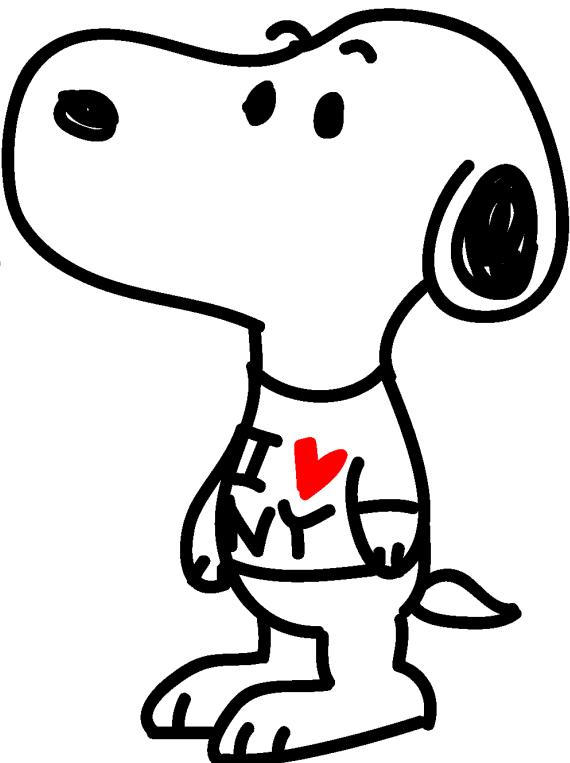
(Kinsui 2003 , Akizuki 2012)

Japanese

NY-ni itta -nya

NY-to Went -NYA

'I went to NY'



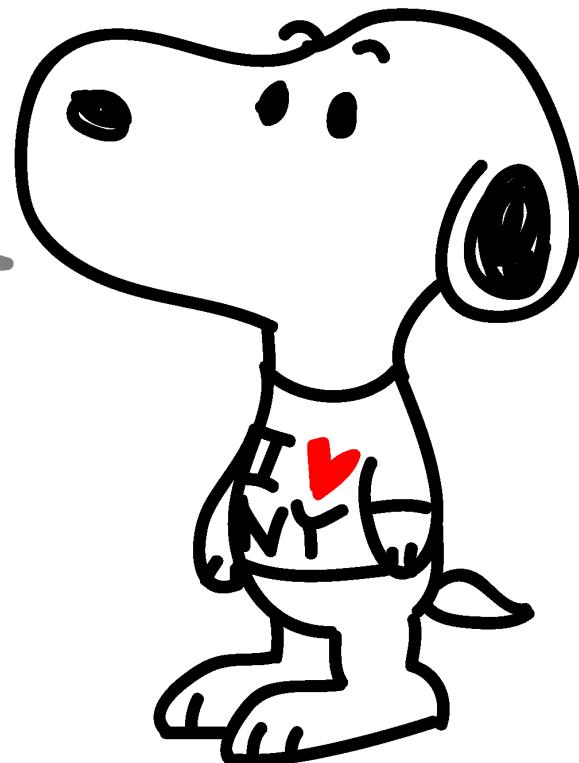
Japanese

NY-ni itta -nya

NY-to Went -NYA

'I went to NY'

that's
not true!

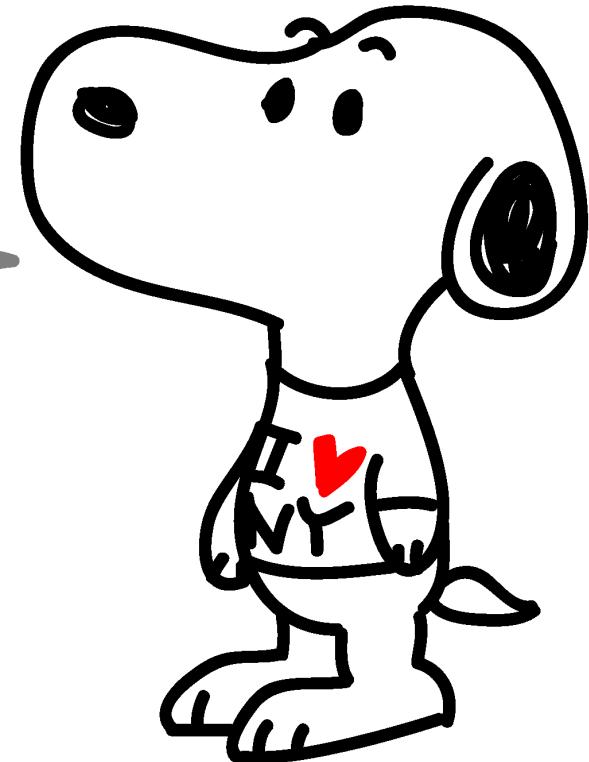
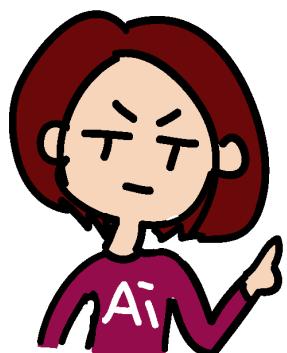


Japanese

NY-hi itta -nya

NY-to Went -NYA

'I went to NY'

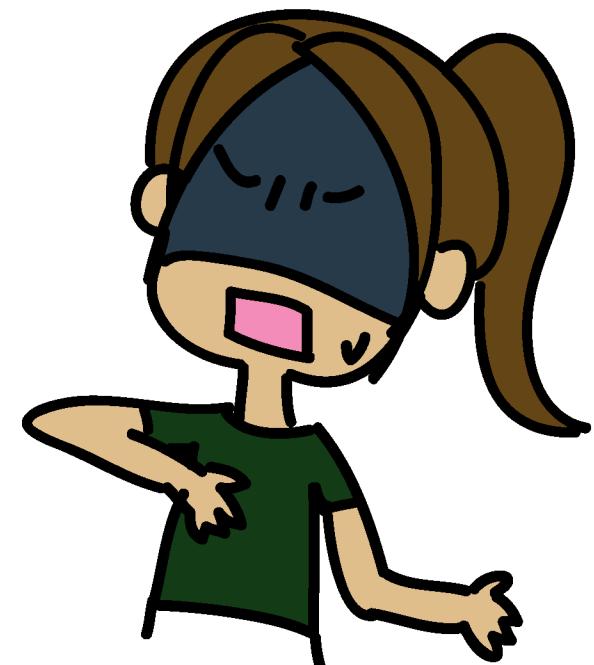
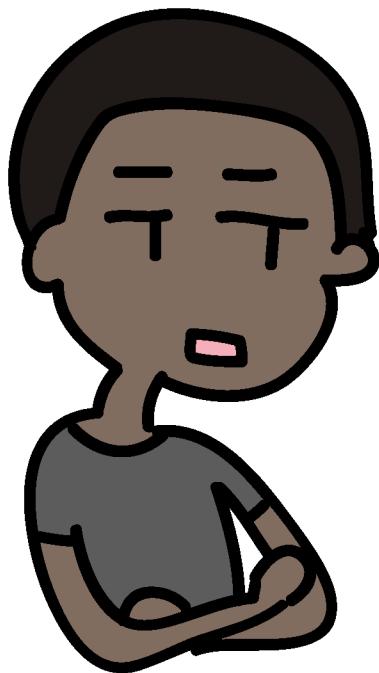


Why do we say stuff?

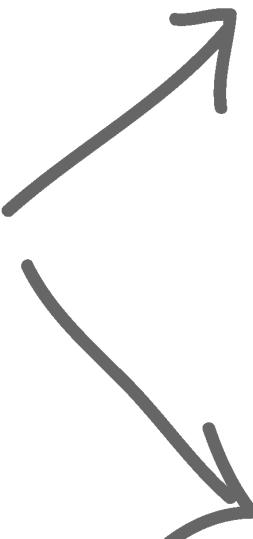
Why do we say stuff?



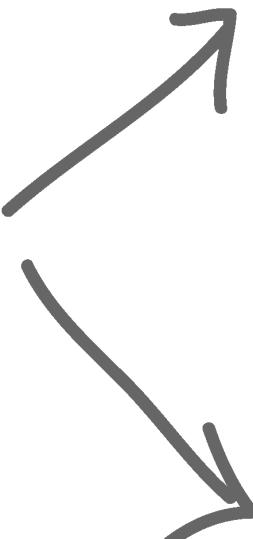
Frankly,
you have terrible
taste in music.



(Potts 2005)

-nya  frankly

-nya



“catty”

-nya

“catly”

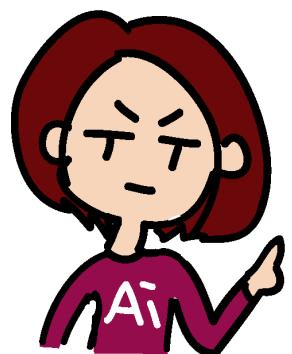
buggy

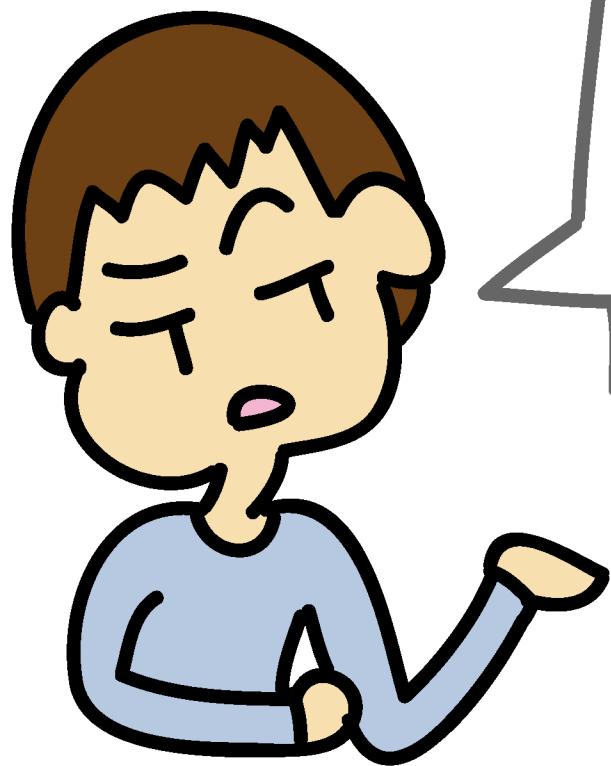
A handwritten diagram illustrating the multiple meanings of the suffix '-nya'. On the left, the suffix '-nya' is written in black. Two arrows originate from it: one pointing upwards to the word 'catly' written in blue, and another pointing downwards to the word 'buggy' written in orange.

-nya

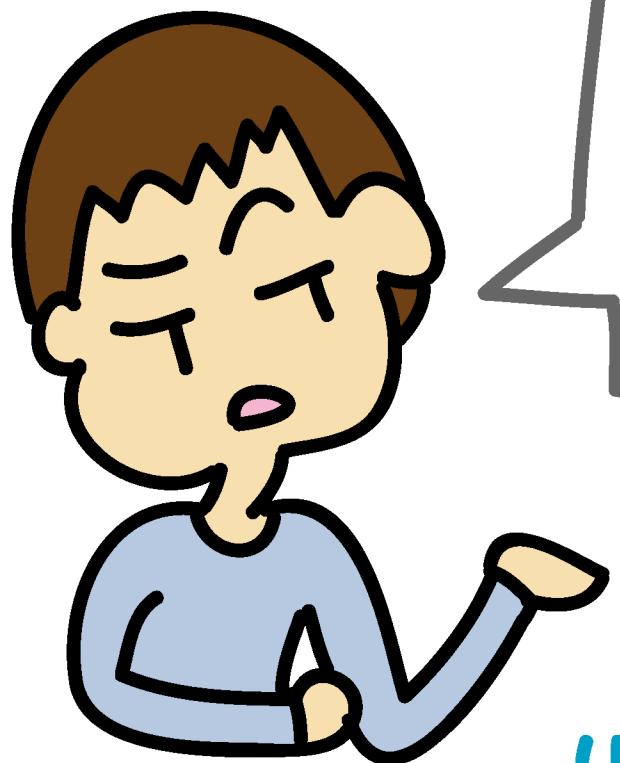
“catly”

“I speak Cat”





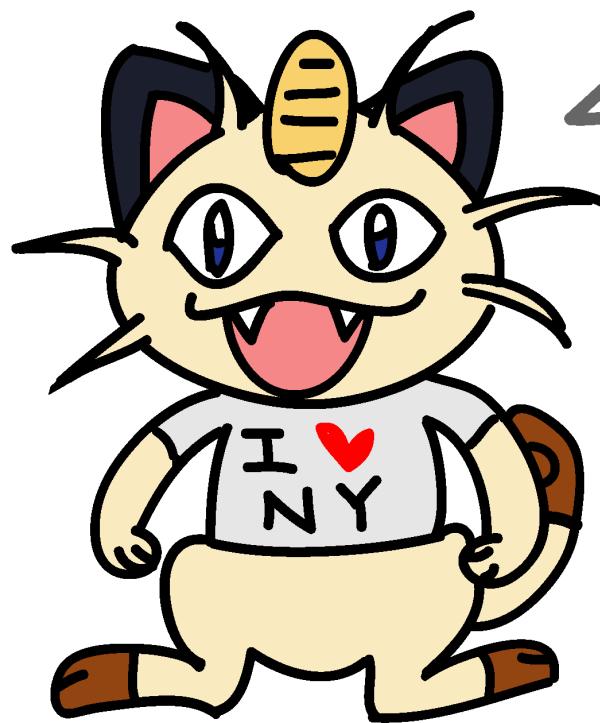
Frankly,
do you
care?



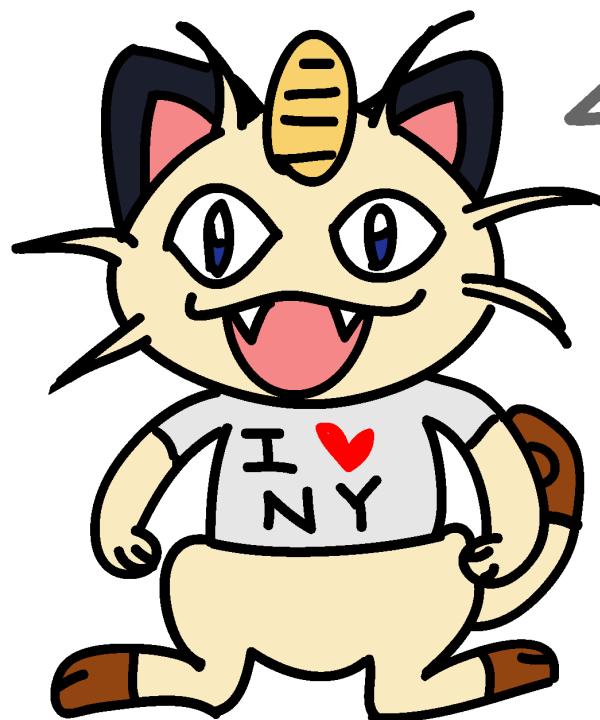
Frankly,
do you
care?



“Answer frankly”



shiri-tai - Ka - nya ?
know-want - Q - NYA
'Do you want
to know?'



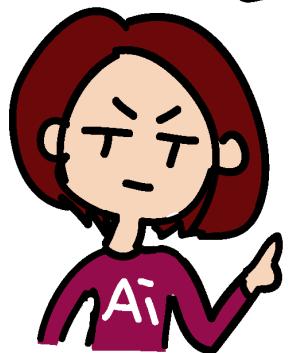
shiri-tai - ka - nya ?
know-want - Q - NYA
'Do you want
to know?'



"Answer catly"



shiri-tai - Ka - nya ?
know-want - Q - NYA
'Do you want
to know?'



~~"Answer catly"~~

Frankly, Bieber

is a douche.

Frankly, I

don't like him.



Frankly, Bieber

is a doofus.

Frankly, I
don't like him.

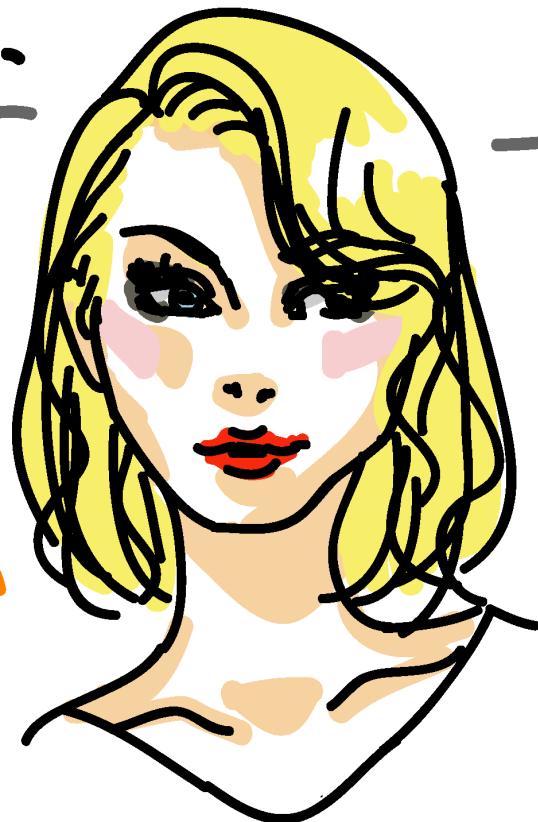


Morgan
Freeman



M.F. is pushing a
buggy. The buggy
is full of cat food
& wine, bless his
heart.

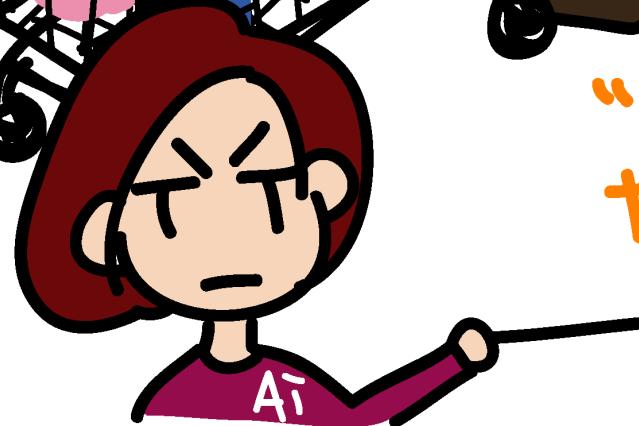
"I'm from
the South"



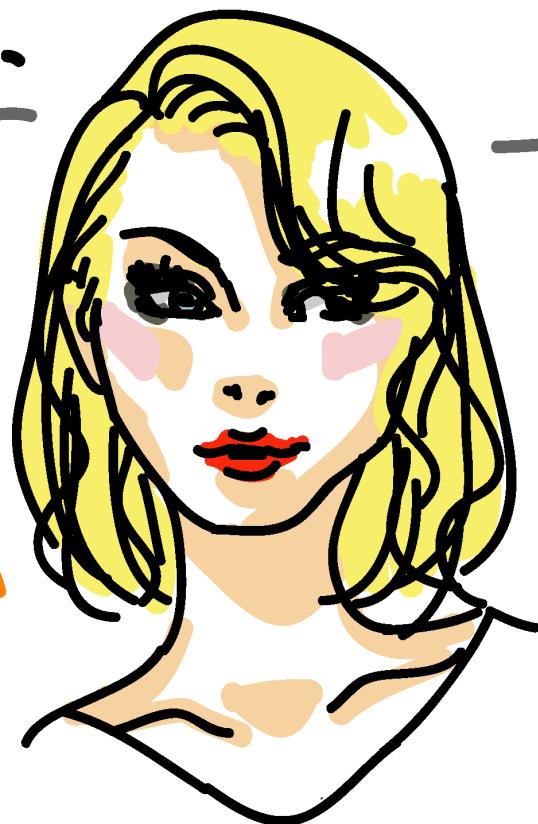
Morgan
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M.F. is pushing a
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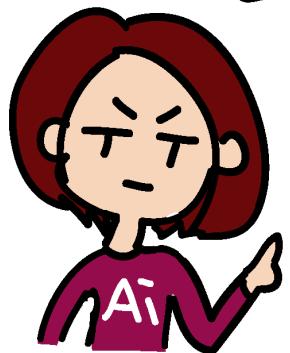


"I'm from
the South"
x3





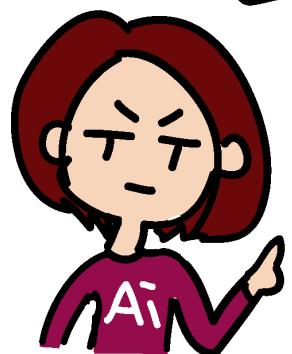
shiri-tai -Ka -nya?
know-want -Q -NYA
'Do you want
to know?'



oshie-nai -nya
tell -not -NYA
'I'm not
telling you'



shiri-tai -Ka -nya?
know-want -Q -NYA
'Do you want
to know?'



"Cat"
x2

oshie-nai -nya
tell-not -NYA
'I'm not
telling you'

Why do we say stuff?

① We're trying to figure out what kind of world we live in

② We're constructing our identity



+ social meaning

Why do we say stuff?

Why do we say stuff?



Why do we say stuff?



THANK YOU

slides
available at
aitaniguchi.github.io



Acknowledgements

Many thanks to =

- Curt Anderson
- My colleagues at
Carleton University
- Vesela Simeonova
- Kali Bybel
- Michelle McSweeney

References

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