**Ryan Carey**

Maxim’s Pinciples of Conversation (page 201, Table 7.1)

His four principles are:

* **In this exercise, Explain or given an example of the statements, that ae under the 4 principles:**

1. Maxim of Quantity
   1. “Make your contribution as informative as is required (for the current purposes of the exchange)
   2. Do not make your contribution more informative than is required.

Context: A paper assignment wasn’t handed it.

Good example: My dog ate my homework, so I need another copy to redo it.

Poor examples: I have a dog. He is a wheaten and loves bacon and paper. Yesterday I had bacon while doing my homework.

1. Maxim of Quality
   1. Do not say what you believe to be false.
   2. Do not say that for which you lack adequate evidence.

Context: A child asks why hummingbirds look blurry.

Good example: The hummingbird’s wings flap faster than the eye can follow, so it looks blurry.

Poor example: Hummingbirds have magic wings.

1. Maxim of Relevance
   1. Be relevant

Context: Children and hummingbirds continued.

Good example: The hummingbird’s wings flap faster than the eye can follow, so it looks blurry.

Poor example: Everything is blurry if you’re old enough.

1. Maxim of Manner.
   1. Avoid obscurity of expression.
   2. Avoid ambiguity.
   3. Be brief (avoid unnecessary prolixity).
   4. Be orderly.

Context: Children and hummingbirds continued.

Good example: The hummingbird’s wings flap faster than the eye can follow, so it looks blurry.

Poor example: They are like that. (ambiguous and obscure)

1. What is a fixed-length font?

A fixed length font uses the same width for characters and spaces, a good example is a typewriter or a very basic LCD screen.

1. What is a variable-length font?

In contrast, a variable-length font has different widths for characters and spaces, allowing significantly improved readability.

1. Given an example of any type of sign, you have come across, that is misleading or hard to understand. The misunderstanding can be for any reason: font, wording, placement, etc. Explain why its hard to understand and how you would correct it.

“Wait for green” – I have always wondered whether wait for green means the same thing as “no turn on red”. If so, why the ambiguity? If not, then who is “wait for green” for?? It exists in the same context as “no turn on red”, always, and prevents the same action as “no turn on red”, I.E. the right turn on a red light.