



Tips on Using Inclusive Language

Clarify Your Meaning

Why? To avoid accidentally basing your argument on biased or unfounded views.

Example of Language that May Not Be Inclusive	Why it May Feel Non-inclusive	Suggested Revision to be More Inclusive
"Professors assign more classwork to Asians than African Americans."	The writer seems to imply that professors might think that Asian students are smarter or more capable of African American students. Is that really what the writer wanted? Don't assume your reader will follow your same line of reasoning—make your assertions clear and back them up with evidence.	"According to [credible source], some professors may assign different workloads to Asian than African American students because..."

"The people in that area were very poor."	The writer has cast judgement upon that area rather than making an observation based on facts.	"I saw several people in the area who were homeless or without food."
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Brown, Shan-Estelle and Mandy Suhr-Sytsma. Addressing the Everyday Language of Oppression in the Writing Center. Weblog. 21 Oct. 2008. Web. 25 May 2011.