

Communication in the language concerned

LANGUAGE REGISTERS

To speak in “a language register”, is to speak in a certain way.

For example, we do not speak in the same way to our boss as to an old friend.

When we speak, we are always using a language register.

Here are 4 sentences which mean the same thing. They are written in 4 different language registers.

Register 1: *Could you tell me the time, please?*

Register 2: *What time is it please?*

Register 3: *Got the time?*

Register 4: *Wassa time?*

Communication in the language concerned

To whom would you say these sentences? Tick the box of your choice.

1. *Did you not recently meet the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry?*

A minister

An employee

A friend

2. *Hit ‘im one then just drop it.*

A minister

An employee

A friend