

September 29, 2026

CMNS 3500
Power and
Language

WORDS
ARE
POWERFUL.

News and events

Tomorrow, 11am - 4pm
Truth and Reconciliation Day
Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc
Arbour

Today - Rainbow Rendezvous
4:00 pm – 7:00 pm at Old
Main (TRU Gender & Sexual
Diversity)

Tonight – Wolfpack Men's
Volleyball v. UBCO
TCC at 7:00

William Shakespeare's
Playhouse of Horror (Actors
Workshop Theatre) – October
9 & 10, 2026, 7:30 pm.



Territorial Acknowledgement



Where we're going today...



Recap: three SFL metafunctions



Apply two metafunctions to a practice text, in pairs



Before Friday: Project 1 logistics

Three metafunctions, one more time

Ideational: Who is named as an actor, what processes are used?

Interpersonal: Mood, modality, appraisal.

Textual: theme/rheme, repetition, substitution, omission

Practice text

City Council Approves Downtown Parking Changes

Council voted Tuesday to decrease downtown parking spaces by 12 percent, a decision officials called “necessary for the neighbourhood’s long-term health.” Residents who attended the meeting argued the change will hurt small businesses already struggling to stay open. The city says a full review of the plan’s effects will happen next year.

Pick two metafunctions, then ask



Ideational: who is the actor in each sentence? What has been nominalized instead of stated as an action?



Interpersonal: how certain does each claim sound? Whose evaluation is built into the word choice?



Textual: what comes first in each sentence? What holds the paragraph together?



Annotate the text. Be ready to share one finding.

30 minutes, in pairs



10 min: annotate on your own



10 min: compare with your partner



15 min: pick your strongest finding to share

Preparing for next class

- Thursday, October 1:
work session
- Bring a draft
- Project 1 due Friday,
October 2, 9:00 a.m.