



Women, Men and Politeness (Real Language Series)

By Janet Holmes

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Women, Men and Politeness focuses on the specific issue of the ways in which women and men express politeness verbally.

Using a range of evidence and a corpus of data collected largely from New Zealand, Janet Holmes examines the distribution and functions of a range of specific verbal politeness strategies in women's and men's speech and discusses the possible reasons for gender differences in this area. Data provided on interactional strategies, 'hedges and boosters', compliments and apologies, demonstrates ways in which women's politeness patterns differ from men's, with the implications of these different patterns explored, for women in particular, in the areas of education and professional careers.

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Review

"This book will undoubtedly become one of those that finds itself on any number of reading lists....It is in essence a survey of research into various discourse features associated with politeness, where gender differences have been found. It does its job extremely efficiently, being thorough, well-presented, easily understood and convincingly argued. It is overall a very useful book."

Journal of Sociolinguistics "Women, men and politeness is to be recommended as a solid survey of empirical work in an area which should be of interest to many." *Language and Literature*

About the Author

Jennifer Holmes is Assistant Professor of Government, Politics, and Political Economy at the University of Texas, Dallas.

Janet Holmes is curator emeritus of Western Art and Culture at the Royal Ontario Museum.

Jennifer Coates, DVM, graduated with honors from the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine. She worked as an associate veterinarian and chief of staff in Petersburg, Virginia and now practices in Jackson, Wyoming, where she is often praised for her ability to communicate with clients and staff. Prior to graduating from veterinary school, Jennifer worked as a veterinary receptionist, assistant, and technician. It was then that she became aware of the frustrations caused by veterinary jargon. Pet owners were confused and upset by their lack of understanding. Receptionists were unable to answer client's questions. Technicians had trouble deciphering medical orders. Animal owners, veterinary support staff, and animal care workers needed a clear and concise resource to explain terminology in plain English. The skill and knowledge gained through years spent immersed in all aspects of veterinary care gave Jennifer an exceptional perspective from which to write the Dictionary of Veterinary Terms. An animal owner for most of her life, Jennifer resides in Etna, Wyoming, with her husband, daughter, dogs, cats, and horses. When she is not at work in the clinic she enjoys hiking, horseback riding, skiing and traveling.

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