

**Formal/informal language exercise**

- 1) *Read the following letter, try to identify all instances of informal language and rewrite them into a more formal style.*

Hi,

Just heard about the conference. I would be definitely great as one of the presenters! I've already presented at other conferences so I fink I'm the best choice. I know a lot about this particular area, especially when it comes to the application of psychology onto domestic mice. Just shoot me an email!

Cheers!

Bartoloměj

- 2) *Look at the corrections you made for the previous exercise. Find a partner and rewrite it into a proper formal letter.*

### Academic Language

- Standard usage and grammar
- Standard vocabulary
- Distance between the writer and reader
  - o Third person
  - o Passive voice
- Authoritative and neutral
  - o Not aggressive, timid, or too enthusiastic

### Using academic language

- 1) *Look at the following paragraph and identify its problematic parts.*
- 2) *Revise the following paragraph to make language more academic while keeping the factual information the same.*

If you bury into the stereotype of girls chatting away on their cell phones, you should think again. One of the major wireless companies surveyed 1021 cell phone owners for a period of five years and—surprise!—reported that guys talk on cell phones more than girls do. In fact, guys were way ahead of girls, using an average of 571 minutes a month compared to 424 for girls. That's 35 percent more time on the phone! The survey also asked about conversations on home phones, and while girls still beat the field, the guys are catching up.

While the stereotype of women spending a large amount of time on their cell phones is quite popular, it seems that the opposite is actually true. 1021 cell phone owners were surveyed for five years by a major wireless company and the results show that men spend more time on phone calls than women; the men spent on average 571 minutes a month on the phone, a 35 percent more when compared to 424 minutes for women. The survey also compared the time men and women spend on home phones and while women composed a majority of home phone callers, the number of men is on the rise.