

Assignment 8

L245

Due Monday, April 24

1. Do question #4 from chapter 7 of the textbook (p. 210–211).
2. Do question #6 from chapter 7 of the textbook (p. 211–212).
3. The Michigan Corpus of Academic Spoken English (MiCASE) is a corpus of academic transcripts, available at <http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/micase/>. Pick a transcript of your choice (writing down what you picked) and answer the following questions:
 - (a) How do you see the speakers establishing (or not establishing) common ground? What sorts of linguistic constructions do they use to indicate that common ground has been reached? (That is: how does one know that the speaker and hearer have roughly the same belief about the conversation.)
 - (b) Identify requests that sound like questions, requests that sound like statements, and other indirect speech behaviors.
 - (c) Do you have a particular hypothesis about how common ground is established or about how much indirect speech is used in that process, based on the discipline, the type of speech event, the relationship of the speakers, or any other property? To answer this question, it will help to briefly compare your transcript with some other ones.
4. Do question #4 from chapter 6 of the textbook (p. 178–179), except you do not actually have to implement your system; simply sketch out the design of your system.