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ENG 237 03 – Oral Communications  
Chapter 10 & 11 Vocabulary

Chapter 10

1. **Language:** any formal system of gestures, signs, sounds, and symbols used or conceived as a means of communicating thought, either through written, enacted, or spoken means
2. **Euphemism:** language devices often used to make something unpleasant sound more tolerable
3. **Abstract language:** language that evokes many different visual images in the minds of your audience
4. **Literal language:** language that does not use comparisons like similes and metaphors
5. **Figurative language:** language that uses metaphors and similes to compare things that may not be literally alike
6. **Similes:** a figure of speech involving the comparison of one thing with another thing of a different kind (specifically using the terms “like” or “as”), used to make a description more emphatic or vivid
7. **Metaphors:** a figure of speech that identifies something as being the same as some unrelated thing for rhetorical effect, thus highlighting the similarities between the two
8. **Clichés:** predictable and generally overused expressions; usually similes
9. **Imagery:** language that makes the recipient smell, taste, see, hear, and feel a sensation; also known as sensory language
10. **Jargon:** language used in a specific field that may or may not be understood by others
11. **Slang:** a type of language that consists of words and phrases that are specific to a subculture or group that others may not understand
12. **Assonance:** the repetition of vowel sounds in a sentence or passage
13. **Alliteration:** the repetition of initial consonant sounds in a sentence or passage
14. **Antithesis:** the juxtaposition of contrasting ideas in balanced or parallel words, phrases, or grammatical structures
15. **Parallelism:** the repetition of grammatical structures that correspond in sound, meter, or meaning
16. **Anaphora:** the succession of sentences beginning with the same word or group of words
17. **Hyperbole:** intentional exaggeration for effect
18. **Irony:** the expression of one’s meaning by using language that normally signifies the opposite, typically for humorous or emphatic effect
19. **Appropriateness:** how persons and groups should be referred to and addressed based on inclusiveness and context
20. **Ethnic Identity:** a group an individual identifies with based on a common culture

Chapter 11

1. **Impromptu Speaking:** the presentation of a short message without advance preparation
2. **Manuscript Speaking:** the word-for-word iteration of a written message

3. **Extemporaneous speaking:** the presentation of a carefully planned and rehearsed speech, spoken in a conversational manner using brief notes
4. **Memorized speaking:** the rote recitation of a written message that the speaker has committed to memory
5. **Vocal cues:** the subtle but meaningful variations in speech delivery, which can include the use of pitch, tone, volume, and pace
6. **Lectern:** a small raised surface, usually with a slanted top, where a speaker can place notes during a speech
7. **Volume:** the relative softness or loudness of your voice
8. **Pitch:** the relative highness or lowness of your voice
9. **Monotone:** a continuing sound, especially of someone's voice, that is unchanging in pitch and without intonation
10. **Rate:** the speed at which you speak; how quickly or slowly a speaker talks
11. **Vocalized pauses:** pauses that incorporate some sort of sound or word that is unrelated to what is being said; "uh," "um," and "like" are well known examples