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Lesson 5 Chapter 4 HW

1. Identify examples of you-language in this conversation. How would you change it to I-language?
 - a. Both Bernadette and Celia use you-language when addressing each other. Bernadette made statements such as “you make me nuts the way you just throw your stuff all over the room” and “Your mess makes me really miserable”. Celia states, “sounds to me like you’ve got a problem-you, not me.” Instead they need to learn to talk about themselves and their feelings. Maybe Bernadette could try saying, “I feel like I am losing my mind when I see clothes on the floor and shoes misplaced,” and/or “I am beginning to feel uncomfortable in my own place when there is too much clothes laying out and about.” As for Celia, she should feel a little responsible for the mess that she has created. It is okay for her to own up to her messes. Maybe it will be better for her to say, “I am sorry you feel that way. While I personally do not agree it is that big of a mess, I feel like it would be in our best interest if we can maybe come to an agreement.”

2. Identify examples of loaded language and ambiguous language.
 - a. Bernadette begins with the loaded language by stating, “...you just throw you stuff all over the room.” This hyperbole is not meant to be taken literally buy Celia did in fact take it so. Also, Bernadette claims Celia’s mess “makes [her] really miserable.” At this time, there is not definite proof she is miserable, so we will consider this statement to be loaded language. Celia, on the other hand is the one who uses ambiguous language by saying she wants to be “comfortable in [her] own room.” Because there is more there is more than one way of being “comfortable” in your own place, Bernadette must infer that she is commenting about the mess thus making this statement ambiguous. Also, Bernadette ends the discussion by asking Celia if she has to be such a slob? This is in fact a rude statement and trying to provoke an emotional response from Celia. This is another example of loaded language.

3. Do you agree with Celia that the problem is Bernadette’s, not hers? Explain your answer.
 - a. I absolutely do not agree with Celia. It is most definitely Celia’s problem and Bernadette called her out on it. It is one thing to be a mess and leave your clothes all over the place, but when sharing a room you can not, “drop your bag right in the middle of the room, and...kick your shoes where they happen to fall

without ever noticing how messy they look.” If you share a room, it is only good etiquette to try to clean up after yourself to make yourself look as decent as possible. If you are just a messy person and cannot do that, then at least keep the mess contained to your side of the room. If it is all on your side of the room, then no one should have a say in how to live your life.

4. To what extent do Celia and Bernadette engage in dual perspective to understand each other?
 - a. I really do not see any engagement in dual perspective. In fact, I see quite the opposite of that. Both parties fail to engage in dual perspective. Celia states, “sounds to me like you’ve got a problem-you, not me.” This in fact finalizes the fact that Celia is not viewing the situation with a dual perspective. The fact that she blames Bernadette for all this signifies the lack of maturity presented by Celia. Bernadette, on the other hand, does not take Celia’s health into consideration. Celia could be overworked and exhausted day in and day out but all Bernadette is concerned about is how tidy her room is. So like Celia, she too does not engage in dual perspectivism.