

## Chapter 3 Interaction Paper

- I. One sentence thesis statement
  - a. Language, in all of its seemingly insignificant differences, is an intense barrier which molds people into particular cultures, making itself a force to be reckoned with.
  
- II. One paragraph summary
  - a. Rynkiewich begins by addressing the relationship between culture and language as language is much more than a form of communication but an extension of being. He discusses the extensive amount of languages and dialects spoken all around the world, and how each one is unique and of its own people group. As a result of such differences, distinct cultures, peoples, and ideas are created. Languages shape entire cultures by creating communication and relationships. It can take an entire lifetime to truly appreciate the many details of each sound, meaning, and understanding of an entire language. However, it is an important task and avenue towards understanding the way a culture sees themselves, relationships, society, and more. Therefore, it is imperative that those in ministry understand this importance and take the time to delve into learning from native languages of the ones they serve.
  
- III. Personal interaction with specific themes in the readings
  - a. I think the last part of the chapter enlightened me as to how people differ in their understanding of their own languages and newcomers. I think growing up as an immigrant, I was quick to realize that I had to adjust to larger society. I had to observe and learn the native language of the United States. I did not recognize

phonetic changes as easily as my native born and raised counterparts. So, when I am exposed to new cultures, I tend to take on the role of a listener and observer. However, to those who have never had this experience, some might find it difficult and even odd that people would not adjust to their norms, language, or customs.

- IV. Two questions for further engaging this topic
  - a. How can one intentionally observe and participate in differing languages in order to best understand? How can newcomers establish a comfortable relationship with languages despite taking at least 20 years to understand native differences?