

META MODEL

Brief Summary

(Statements in parentheses; challenges in caps)

Deletions

Simple deletion – missing info

(I am uncomfortable) ABOUT WHOM? WHAT?

Comparative deletion – missing standard of evaluation

(She is a better person) BETTER THAN WHOM?

Lack of referential index – unidentified pronoun

(They won't give me a chance) WHO SPECIFICALLY ARE THEY?

Unspecified verb – verbs without specifics of how, when, where etc.

(She hurt me) HOW SPECIFICALLY DID SHE HURT YOU?

Nominalization – verbs made into nouns

(I want affection) HOW DO YOU WANT AFFECTION? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN TO YOU?

Generalizations

Universal quantifiers – generalizations precluding exceptions or choices

(She never does what I ask) NEVER? WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF SHE DID?

Modal operators of necessity – words implying specific action or no choice

(I have to do it) WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU DIDN'T?

(There is no way for me to do it) WHAT STOPS YOU?

Distortions

Cause-effect – assumes stimulus-response relationship

(He makes me angry) HOW DOES HE DO THAT?

Mind reading – assumes you know what someone thinks, feels, etc.

(I know he doesn't like me) HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

Lost performative – value judgement where source of assumption is missing

(This is the right way) ACCORDING TO WHOM? HOW DO YOU KNOW?