# The Appropriate Word

# Appropriate?

1. Proper style of English
2. The avoidance of Chinglish.

# Why?

**The difference between the right word and the almost-right word is as great as that between lightning and the lighting bug.**

用词准确与用词几乎准确，这二者之间差异就如闪电与萤火虫之间差异。"

# Why?

- Using the right word at the right time is rather like wearing appropriate clothing for the occasion: it is a courtesy to others, and a favor to yourself-a matter of presenting yourself well in the eyes of the world.
- ——— *The Reader's Digest*

# Comparison 1

a. The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m. without any consensus being reached.

b. The meeting finished at 5 and we didn't reach any agreement.

# Comparison 2

a. After a double attempt to insert himself through the window, Michael conceded failure.

b. After two tries at climbing in through the window, Michael gave up.

# Style

1. Formal
2. General
3. Colloquial
4. Slang

The consumption of nutriments is prohibited.

You are required not to consume food in this establishment.

Eating is not allowed here.

Please don't eat here.

You can't feed your face here.

Lay off the nosh.

Lay off the fucking nosh.

# Type 1: Formal

1. Formal words are those used by educated people in formal contexts: thesis writing, official news releases, and formal announcement.

2. "gentlemen" vs. "men" or "guys".

# Type 2: General

1. General words form the basis of the vocabulary and are used for everyday communication.

- **Poor---**
- **→impoverished;**
- **rich---**
- **→wealthy;**

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