

# Familiar Register Versus Academic Register

*Some ways of speaking [or writing] a language are distinct because they're associated with a particular role of the person who's speaking.... The child who says, "Bye, Mom!" to his mother and "Goodbye, Mrs. Mason!" to the school principal and "Later, Man!" to his friend... is demonstrating command of three registers [or voices].*

*~Suzette Elgin Haden*

	Familiar/Colloquial Voice	Formal/Academic Voice
1.	Kid(s)	Child (Children)
2.	Mom	Mother
3.	Dad	Father
4.	Mad	Angry
5.	Whole	Entire
6.	Movie	Film
7.	Maybe	Perhaps
8.	Hard	Difficult, Challenging
9.	Done	Finished
10.	Basically	Essentially
11.	Only	Merely, Simply
12.	Really	Actually, Truly
13.	First	Main, Primary
14.	Make, Made	Cause, Caused
15.	Get, Got	Receive, Received
16.	Scared	Afraid, Frightened
17.	At the same time	Simultaneously
18.	Like (I like apples)	Enjoy (apples)
19.	Like (Like Smith says)	As (Smith states)
20.	Like (Like a writer)	Similar to (a writer)
21.	A lot	Many, Much, Numerous
22.	Weird	Unique, Unusual, Strange
23.	Story	Text, Article, Narrative, Essay
24.		
25.		
26.		
27.		
28.		

Extracted and modified:

Elgin Haden, Suzette. *The Language Imperative*. Cambridge: Persus Books, 1999. 22-23.