

About Asking Questions: The Art and Science of Asking QUESTIONS, Part I

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What is **not** well appreciated or understood is that the answer to any question that is asked has, at an unconscious level, already been molded by the:

1. **logic that is implicate to the question**
2. **semantics of the question**
3. **presuppositions in the question.**

In other words, the person is already biased to answer the question in a certain way! Professional interrogators know that there are situations in which it is a very serious matter to posit a biased question. For this it is critical to posit an open-ended question. However, there are not many competent Applied Linguists who really know how to do this. If what we say here is true, you are already wondering who you can go to – to learn Applied Linguistics!

So, the life situation is that everyone is putting biased questions with blasé unawareness. Is it any wonder that there is the degree of miscommunication that is extant in life?

These are critical issues that we will address in a series of forthcoming articles on this subject.