

# Pragmatic Features 2

## Semantic Features

**Korea University**  
**Young Ji, Hong**

# Situation 1

## (Higher to Lower Status)

### Korean (KS)

#### ◆ More explicit & Direct Criticism

*“I don’t agree with you.”*

*“I don’t think that’s a good idea.”*

# Situation 1 (higher to lower)

## Native Speaker

◆ **No explicit strategy**

**Positive statement + criticism**

*“This is good but I see some problems why don’t you..?”*

*“I think this is great, but there are problems with this”*

# Major Difference

NS

◇ suggestion

*“I think you’ve put a lot of thought into this plan and I appreciate that.”*

KS

◇ suggestion

⇒ more direct, shorter criticize

*“Frankly speaking, I don’t think it is fine”*

# Situation 2 (lower to higher)

KS

◆ Harsher, more explicit & direct criticism

*“No, it isn’t, I’m afraid”*

*“No, I don’t think it’s great plan”*

NS

◆ Positive statement, softeners, no explicit criticism

# Main reason

- **Low proficiency**
- **Over-generalization of NS's directness**
- **Different linguistic structure**  
**: Korean honorifics, lexical selection,**  
**& formulaic choices**

# NS's characteristic

NS

## ◇ Americans

**Positive remark + Suggestion**

*“It looks interesting. If you really want my opinion, I’d like to look it over more carefully, and maybe ask a few questions”*

# Question strategy

KS

- ◆ Korean's Questioning
- ⇒ Communication problems

NS

- ◆ NS's questions + explicit statements

*“How do you think it will work ?*

*I guess I see problems”*

*“You put a lot of time into this.  
Do you think it will work ?”*

# Miscommunications

KS

- ◆ When they fail to get result  
⇒ repeating questions

NS

- ◆ When their initial question didn't work  
⇒ statement

# Conclusion

- ◆ **Resolve Misunderstanding**
- ◆ **Effective International &  
Intercultural Communication**