

## Miscommunication Worksheet

Name: Mary

Miscommunication Pattern: Bypassing

Who	Did what / Said what to Whom	2 Contributing Factors	2 Correctives
<p>My friend Barbara</p> <p>Myself</p>	<p><b>Barbara:</b> What time are you picking me up for dinner?</p> <p><b>Me:</b> I'm picking you up at seven. Don't be late. (I told her this to trick her to be ready on time because she is always late, I didn't think she would be ready at six.)</p> <p><b>Barbara:</b> I won't be late.</p> <p>(Around 6:30)</p> <p><b>Barbara:</b> Hey, how come you haven't come to pick me up yet, I've been ready for the past thirty minutes.</p> <p><b>Me:</b> Oh, sorry, I figured you would be late because you're always late. I am on my way!</p>	<p><b>Definition 1:</b> <b>Words have mono-usage</b>—the false assumption that a word has only one meaning.</p> <p><b>Application 1:</b> I told her not to be “late” not realizing this was a generic reference to time.</p> <p><b>Definition 2:</b> <b>Words have meanings</b>—the false assumption meaning is in words not people.</p> <p><b>Application 2:</b> I assumed that 30 minutes “late” would not seem “late” to Barbara because she is “always” late.</p>	<p><b>Definition 1:</b> <b>Be sensitive to contexts</b>—be mindful of the situation in which the word was used.</p> <p><b>Application 1:</b> I will arrive at the time I suggest, realizing that she might not be late <i>this</i> time.</p> <p><b>Definition 2:</b> <b>Query and paraphrase:</b> Summarize a speaker and then ask clarifying questions</p> <p><b>Application 2:</b> I could paraphrase, “So, by ‘not late’ should I be here right at 6, or give you a little extra time and arrive at 6:15?”</p>