

Avoid Dangerous Shortcuts

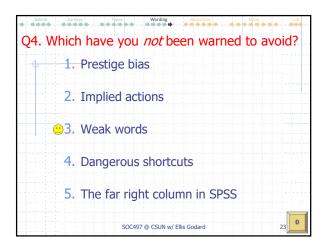
Avoid jargon, slang, and abbrevations

Esp. regional words: rad floater (surfing),
NATO, LA (Louisiana? Lower Alabama?)

Avoid false premises built into questions

e.g. slanted preamble

E.g. "have you stopped beating your wife?"



Avoid Charged Words/Phrases

Strong words

forbid (vs disallow)

Prestige bias

certain institutions, offices, groups

Congress vs our govt — more neg about Congress than about "federal government"

our government (vs the gov't)

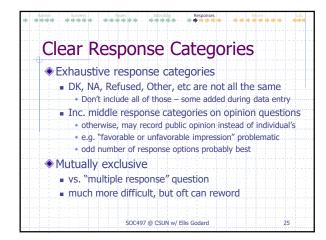
Implied actions

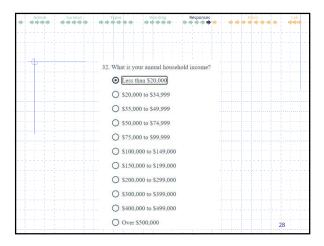
solving problems in cities > provide assistance to

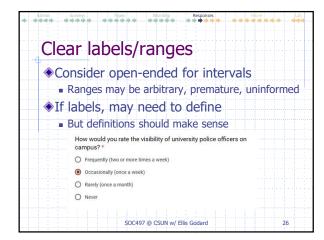
But, provide assistance to the poor > welfare

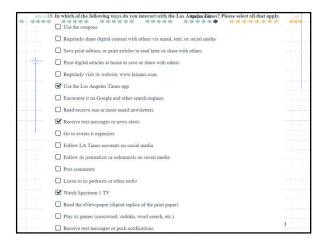
halting rising crime rates > more law enforcement

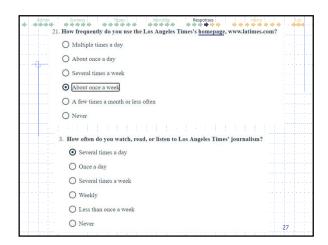


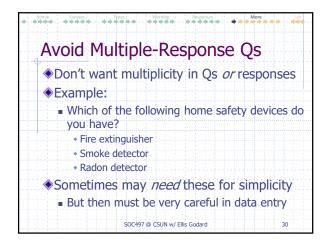




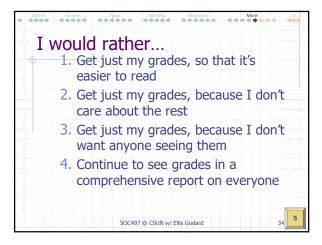


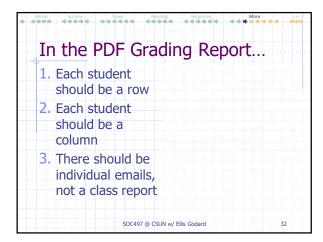


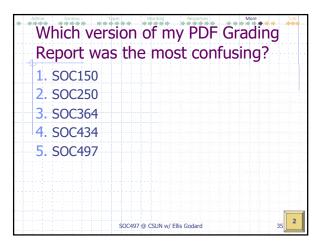












Avoid Double-Barreled Questions

Examples:

is your home equipped with a smoke detector & fire extinguisher? – any "and" is problematic

which of the following is an important reason you use linux? – reasons inc. "it's powerful"

asks both if powerful, and if that's why use it

Check whenever word <u>and</u> appears in a question or questionnaire statement (and see p. 247)

Look for combined ideas that are really two questions...

