ELN101 PLA Week 10

Post-lecture Assignment (PLA) 10: Survey Questions

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For this Post-lecture Assignment (PLA), you will develop **3 survey questions** for your final research project. Each student will contribute three proposed items to our class online survey. Your goal is to write clear, neutral questions that will help you collect evidence about bilingualism and answer your research question.

1. State your research focus.

Write **one research question** about English as the official language in the U.S. Use or revise the questions you developed during the Week 10 lecture. Possible topics include policy awareness, language use, language attitudes, bilingual identity, and language learning.

2. Develop three survey items.

Develop **three survey items** that address your research question. Include all response choices and instructions (e.g., "Select one" or "Select all that apply"). You may adapt the examples below. Items about effects measure perceived or expected changes; responses alone cannot establish that the policy caused a change.

Example:
Research Question: What are people's attitudes toward English as the official language of the United States and the role of other languages in public life?

1. Do you support or oppose designating English as the official language of the United States? Select one.
   Strongly support / Somewhat support / Neither support nor oppose / Somewhat oppose / Strongly oppose / Not sure
2. Do you support or oppose providing federal government services in languages other than English? Select one.
   Strongly support / Somewhat support / Neither support nor oppose / Somewhat oppose / Strongly oppose / Not sure
3. How comfortable or uncomfortable do you feel hearing people speak languages other than English in public places in the United States? Select one.
   Very comfortable / Somewhat comfortable / Neither comfortable nor uncomfortable / Somewhat uncomfortable / Very uncomfortable / Not sure

3. Check the quality of your questions.

Use Babbie (2016), which was the reading for Week 10, to assess each item. Revise your survey items if necessary.

- **Exhaustive choices:** Can every respondent find an appropriate answer? Include "Other (please specify)," "Not applicable," or "Not sure" when needed.
- **Mutually exclusive categories:** For select-one items, do the choices avoid overlap? For "Select all that apply," explain that "None of these" cannot be combined with other choices.
- **Double-barreled questions:** Does the item ask about only one idea? Separate questions about two issues that a respondent might answer differently.
- **Leading questions:** Avoid loaded wording, appeals to authority, and assumptions about respondents' experiences. Offer balanced choices (e.g., both support and opposition).
- **Clear wording:** Use short, clear sentences and avoid confusing negatives. Specify the situation and time period when needed so respondents interpret the question consistently.

Submit your responses through Brightspace ELN101 Week 10 PLA.