Introducing . . . the ILA Convention Paper Resource Center
by Kathy Thompson and Carolyn Coakley

A new ILA resource is here! Why? Because three scenarios too often occur after ILA conventions.

Scenario #1: ILA member attends 1998 ILA Convention, chooses not to attend Coakley’s session on the competent listening teacher, does not obtain Coakley’s handouts (and, yes, they are handouts—free to session attendees), and later needs Coakley’s convention papers.

Scenario #2: ILA member—or nonmember—does NOT attend 1998 ILA Convention, does not attend any presenter’s session, does not obtain any presenter’s handouts, later needs information on listening in the healing process (subject of Thompson’s session).

Scenario #3: ILA Nonmember does NOT attend 1998 ILA Convention, does not even know ILA or ILA conventions or ILA convention papers exist, later needs information on listening in crisis situations (subject of Tom Hickerson’s session).

Do any of these scenarios sound familiar? Well, the search is over.

(Listening: The Heart of Humanity)

by Janet Cherry, First VP

Greetings from Janet Cherry: First Vice-President and Program Chair.

It is my pleasure to invite you to the International Listening Association’s Nineteenth Annual Convention, Listening: The Heart of Humanity.

This three-day convention, designed for listening advocates, is your opportunity to develop new skills, network with colleagues, and discover the latest research, trends, and technology.

The convention has four tracks that represent the driving forces of growth and change in the listening area: business, education, general, and research. Concurrent sessions are the backbone of the convention. Your interest may focus on one primary track, yet all four learning avenues complement the foundations of the art and skill of listening. Business and Education special interest conferences are scheduled within the convention’s main program. The Research track includes a special participatory session outlining the research process.

Kansas City is a cultural kaleidoscope. Art, fashion, food, and entertainment are only steps away from our convention site, the Ritz-Carlton.

And you won’t need to leave the hotel to browse through the ILA boutique and book display stocked with new items and resources for educators, trainers, and consultants. Fun was definitely not overlooked. Relax, meet, and mingle at the Benjamin Ranch, the location of this year’s social.

A full agenda in an exciting city is planned for you. I look forward to greeting you in Kansas City, Missouri, on March 19-21, 1998.

(Continued on page 8)
President’s Perspective:
New Year’s Resolutions

by Susan Ellen Bacon, President

Many of us start the New Year with personal resolutions. “I’m going to...lose weight, stop smoking, finish writing my book, not leave things to the last minute.” Some
of us do very well keeping those resolutions; others of us may slip but are at least more aware of how we are behaving. To me these resolutions do three positive things. First we have an opportunity to look at what we are currently doing. Second, we discover what we want to do differently. And third, we make an action plan.

I’d like to suggest that each of us add one ILA resolution to our list. First, look at what service you are giving to ILA. Are you in a committee rut, year after year, same issues? Or do you like the committee you’ve chosen and want to expand your horizons right where you are? Second, look at how you want serve differently. Maybe your resolution will be to chair a committee that you’ve been on several years. Maybe you will choose to serve on a new committee or project. And third, take action. Using the Committee Sign-up Sheet enclosed with your Convention registration packet, let ILA know what you have resolved to do.

The sign-up sheet lists eleven committees.

Awards: This committee needs representatives from all interest areas to recommend and analyze who should be recipient of official ILA awards.

Business: The by-laws committee will be recommending that this Task Force be an official ILA committee. This group represents business interests and concerns.

Curriculum/Assessment: The challenge of this committee is to provide leading edge analysis of what should be taught in listening and how to determine listening proficiency.

Elementary/Secondary: This committee was previously a Task Force. You will be asked to vote that it also becomes a committee. This group represents K-12 educational interests and concerns.

International Outreach: This committee fosters the interest of international members within the organization and provides a forum for all members’ interest in international aspects of ILA. It is chaired by the Member-at-Large, International.

Local Arrangements: In conjunction with the First VP, this committee coordinates the hospitality and special event components for the conference and extraneous details to support the convention.

Membership: This committee is chaired by the Second Vice-President. If we are to grow as an organization, the role of this committee is vital.

Program Planning: The First Vice President chairs this committee. The committee’s goal is to work together to design a high quality convention.

Public Relations: The purpose of this committee is to formulate policy regarding disseminating ILA information and then ‘get the news out.’ This committee is chaired by the Member-at-Large, Public Relations.

Research: ILA members who are interested in expanding our understanding of the listening process through research methods are encouraged to share their concerns and strategies through this committee.

Site Selection: The purpose of this committee is to recommend the convention cities.

All of these committees are open to all of our members. Your Board has worked to clarify the role of each committee and to consolidate the number of active committees. This list represents something for everyone. An opportunity for service for all interest groups. A chance to serve ILA. A way to fulfill an important New Year’s resolution.

Editor’s Ink — see page 9.
Letter to the Editor

The National Council on US-Arab Relations is a non-profit educational organization that seeks to increase American understanding and awareness of the Arab world. The Joseph J. Malone Faculty Fellowship in Arab and Islamic Studies sends professors who excel in community outreach, with no prior travel experience in the host country, on two-week study visits to the Arab world.

A delegation scheduled for March 5-19, 1998, to Saudi Arabia will be comprised of professors and administrators in departments of Journalism and Communications. There is a program fee of $975 which, combined with the fellowship, covers all expenses abroad, including international airfare, and a two-day orientation program in D.C.

One of your members, Dr. Charles Veenstra, mentioned that members of your organization might be interested in applying for this fellowship. He traveled to Saudi Arabia through the National Council with a delegation of Social Scientists in many fields last year. The application deadline has been set for Jan. 15th, however, in light of the print date for your newsletter, members who read about the fellowship and are interested may call for a faxed application, and we can accept faxed responses a bit beyond the deadline if we are alerted they are pending.

Please feel free to email or call me (202-293-0801) with any questions you may have, or call Dr. Veenstra for his comments. Thank you so much for your time.

Sincerely,
Kirsten Bornmann
Malone Coordinator

Call for Manuscripts
by Steve Rhodes

You are invited to submit your research the International Journal of Listening. We are seeking articles related to any aspect of listening. As you know, listening is more than just an aural process. It encompasses all of the senses and can incorporate non-verbal behaviors as well. The journal is dedicated to a pluralistic philosophy, seeking articles that cover aspects of listening from all perspectives. All theoretical and methodological approaches to listening will be considered, so long as the research is sound.

All submitted articles are sent out, without attribution, to at least three reviewers. To facilitate this, be sure to put your name on a cover sheet only and not in the body of the paper. Your reviewers will be selected for your article based, in part, on the type of article and the kind of methodology used by you, the writer. All of the reviewers have promised a quick turn-around (usually less than one month from time of submission).

To submit, send four (4) copies of your manuscript to:

Steven C. Rhodes, Editor
Int'l Journal of Listening
Dept. of Communication
W. Michigan University
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
(616) 387-3154
RHODES@wmich.edu

IMPORTANT DATES

February 1, 1998 — Send Nichols Award submissions to Ethel Glenn, and Brown Award (student) submissions to Steve Rhodes

February 1, 1998 — Send Who's Who information to Lisa Darnell or Diana Schnapp

March 19-21, 1998 — 19th Annual Convention, Kansas City, MO

March 27, 1998 — Listening Post deadline

June 26, 1998 — Listening Post deadline

September 26, 1998 — Listening Post deadline

December 11, 1998 — Listening Post deadline

March 1999 — 20th Annual Convention, Albuquerque, NM

March 2000 — 21st Annual Convention, Virginia Beach, VA

March 2001 — 22nd Annual Convention, Chicago, IL

Your 1997 Board

President SusanEllen Bacon

First Janet Cherry
Vice-President

First Vice- Charles Roberts
President Elect

Second Tommy Neuman
Vice-President

Members at
Large Edie Cole
Lisa Darnell

Listening Post
Editor & Barbara Nixon
Secretary

International
Journal of
Listening Editor

Executive
Director Diana Schnapp
1998 Convention

Business Group Announces Mini-Conferences

by Sheila Bentley

The 1998 Convention will contain some new, different and exciting events! This year, in place of one Business Pre-Conference, there will be not one special interest session for the Business group, but two!

Listening in the Health Care Professions

On Thursday morning, the Business group will host a mini-conference on Listening in the Health Care Professions. Presenters will include physician and nurse educators from Kansas City medical schools and a medical educator responsible for teaching listening skills to non-medical staff health care providers. There will be sessions on teaching doctors and nurses to listen, learning to listen to a culturally diverse clientele, and teaching other health care providers to listen. There will also be a panel discussion with doctors, health care providers and patients providing insight into the importance of listening in the healing process. Cost of this mini-conference will be $30 for ILA members, and registration will be limited to 50 participants.

Listening in the Mediation Process

Friday afternoon will also be a highlight with a second business mini-conference on Listening in the Mediation Process. Fred Talbot, J.D., a certified mediator, will be the presenter. Fred is a professor of business communication in the Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University, an award-winning journalist, has been a speech writer for the White House and Saturday Night Live, and is a speaker in high demand all across the country. This session promises to be lively, informative and entertaining. Cost of this mini-conference will also be $30 for ILA members, and registration for this session will also be limited to 50 participants.

Education Mini-Conference

Listening: The Heart of Learning

See insert in this Listening Post

Three Wishes Granted by Research Committee

by Dick Halley
Chair of the Research Committee

Have you always wanted to do Listening Research?

Thought you didn’t have enough background? Thought you didn’t have enough time? Thought you needed guidance and help?

The Research Committee wants to help you get your wish.

There will be three sessions at the Kansas City Convention to help and get you involved in quality research with a wonderful support system.

Wish #1 Granted — A session on research methodologies with Andy Wolvin and his former students.

They will sketch out several approaches so that you are ready for the next two.

Wish #2 Granted — A session with strong experienced ILA researchers.

Dr. William Arnold will lead a group through a design in the area of Listening in the Health Professions.

What questions do you have about the listening done here? What questions do you have about how listening in the health professions could be improved? Let’s talk about it.

Wish #3 Granted — Dr. Blaine Goss will lead a group through a design in the area of Listening Training and the Business Community.

And the Research Genie Has More. . .

If you will go to one or both of these last two sessions, you will come away with:

- A specific task to carry out as part of a research team
- Expert help to be able to carry out this task at a professional level
- The expectation that you would be part of a research team reporting your research next year at the ILA Convention.

The Research Committee needs your help. If you are willing to help, we will provide the support for you to be able to participate in an exciting and important research project that will help us learn more about listening so that we can all do our teaching, consulting and supporting more effectively.
1998 ILA Officer Nominees

Janet Cherry
Ascending to President

The art of listening is a powerful tool and we, the ILA membership, are its ambassadors. Reaching out—beyond our immediate roles—and sharing this art-skill around the world is my philosophy and vision for ILA.

Harvey Weiss
First Vice-President Elect

As they say, just about everywhere and in every possible language: timing is everything!

Being nominated for this office comes at just the right time in my life. I will be retiring from teaching high school after 37 years at the end of the current school year. I couldn't do this if I was still teaching full-time. Also, after my fourth year on the executive board, I will be technically put out to pasture at the ripe old age of _____, and will be in a position to really "play" for the rest of my days on earth.

Finally, as a founding member, I have been given much for my years of service; while on the other hand, have given back my fair share to the organization. For me, it's pay-back time, and I do it willingly with enthusiasm. I will do my best to serve and represent all of us in a manner fitting a professional.

Hope to see all my old friends, and future new ones, in Kansas City.

Richard D. Halley
Second Vice-President

Dick earned his Ph.D. from Ohio University in interpersonal communication and cognitive processing in 1972 and has been an ILA member since about 1988. He has been most active in the research division having served on that committee for many years. Most recently he has served as vice chair and is currently serving as chair. Dick served as chair of the nominating committee during the 1996-97 year and has also been active as a presenter for the education division. He and his wife (ILA member Carol Christy) are currently trying to arrange a trip to Europe in the spring of 1998 during which they hope to meet with prospective new ILA members. Letters have been sent to people in Europe known to participate in other communication related conferences asking for assistance in this effort.

Dick has authored nine listening related publications and presented twenty-two listening related convention papers. He is a professor of Communication at Weber State University and has served as a consultant in listening for more than twenty-five years.
Parthenia H. Franks
Secretary

Parthenia, who is the mother of one son and who hails from the state of Virginia, received her bachelor's in Language Arts from Morgan State University (Baltimore, MD), her master's in Speech-Language Pathology from Howard University (Washington, DC), and her doctorate in Career Development with a concentration in Speech Communication from Georgia State University (Atlanta, Georgia). She has enjoyed several careers, serving first as a sales correspondent for Noble and Noble Publishers of New York, and later as a speech-language pathologist when she moved to Atlanta in the 1970s. As a speech-language pathologist, she held the positions of department head and clinic coordinator at Reach, Inc., a rehabilitation center. Subsequently, she became the Coordinator of The Speech and Hearing Clinic at Georgia State University. Some years later, she maintained a private practice while also being employed as a part-time lecturer for the Georgia Speech and Hearing Association. Parthenia currently holds two positions at Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA: one as associate professor of Enlish/Linguistics where she teaches Intercultural Communication and other speech courses, and the other as Divisional Advisory Dean of the Humanities. In addition to having published in the areas of speech communication and poetry, Parthenia has been featured in two television shows including the Today Show, and has as well given numerous workshops and presentations around the country. Her hobbies are cooking and writing poetry.

Since becoming an ILA member in 1993, Parthenia has chaired two convention presentations and has given three presentations: 1993—“Listening Intent,” 1994—“Cultural Diversity Listening,” and 1997—“Building Poetic Connections.” She also served on the following committees: International Outreach, 1994-95; Curriculum Assessment, 1995-96; Research, 1995-96; and Site Selection 1995-96.

Kathy Thompson
Member-at-Large, Special Projects

Kathy Thompson, Associate Professor of Professional Communication at Alverno College, has been an active member of ILA since 1987. Kathy has contributed to ILA as Executive Director, Coordinator of the 1995 Midwest Regional Conference, member of the Public Relations Committee and the Education Task Force, and as frequent presenter at ILA conventions and conferences. She is currently working with Carolyn Coakley Hickerson to create a new ILA Convention Paper Resource Center (ILA-CPRC) through which convention papers will be made available to interested ILA members and non-members.

As Member-at-Large, Special Projects, Kathy is interested in assisting the ILA Board in any special projects that promote effective listening and further the goals of the association. She recently designed the ILA listening poster and worked with various media to promote ILA through radio, television and print interviews with ILA members. She is also a frequent keynote speaker and workshop presenter on the topic of listening in her community.

Her work at Alverno College includes curriculum development, faculty mentoring and workshops to promote listening across the curriculum, and the creation of a listening assessment video for incoming freshmen.

Nominating Committee
Harold Kinser
Michael Purdy
Manny Steil
Roger Wilson

Current Board Members
Continuing Their Terms

Member-at-Large,
Public Relations
Lisa Damell

Member-at-Large, International
Carol Christy

Ex-Officio Board Members
Continuing Their Terms

Listening Post Editor
Barbara B. Nixon

International Journal of Listening
Editor
Steve Rhodes
Bylaws Revision Committee Proposes Changes

The Bylaws Revision Committee proposes the following changes to the International Listening Association Bylaws (revised 3-96). These changes will be voted on at the Business Meeting at the annual Convention in March.

ARTICLE IV — Officers

Section 4. Before accepting nomination for an office, nominees must agree, at their own expense to:

2. Attend and participate in the Executive Board Meetings. Any officer who does not fulfill the responsibilities of the office in the judgment of the remaining Executive Board members, may be dismissed and replaced by an Association member appointed by the Executive Board. Any voting Executive Board member shall be removed from office if he or she misses two Board meetings within his or her tenure, unless excused by the Board by a majority vote.

(Note: This adds the last sentence to the existing information in #2.)

Section 5. Duties of Officers

Secretary

4. Shall serve as Co-Chair of the Bylaws Revision Committee.

(NOTE: This changes wording from Liaison-Consultant to Co-Chair, to make it consistent with other references in the Bylaws to the Secretary's role.)

ARTICLE V — Executive Board and Committees

Section 3. Committees

1. The association shall have the following standing committees chaired as set forth: Program Planning, Vice President; Membership, Second Vice President; Audit, First Vice President Elect and Secretary, Co-Chairs; Bylaws Revision, First Vice President Elect and Secretary, Co-Chairs; Public Relations, Member-at-Large #1; Special Projects, Member-at-Large #2; International Outreach, Member-at-Large #3; Nomination, Committee-Elected Chair. Standing Committees chaired by President Appointees are: Awards, Business, Curriculum/Assessment, Elementary/Secondary, Local Arrangements, Research, and Site Selection.

(Note: The changes are adding Business Committee, renaming K-12 Task Force as Elementary/Secondary Committee, and deleting Archives Committee.)

Proxy

If you are unable to attend the 1998 Convention in Kansas City and would like your votes (on Bylaws changes, slate of officers, and other items) to be counted, please fill out the proxy statement below:

I, ____________________________, hereby authorize active ILA member ____________________________ to serve as my proxy at the 1998 Convention in Kansas City.

Signed ____________________________

Date ____________________________

Mail this proxy statement to Tommy Neuman, Second Vice-President, at 2834 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821-5207 (or fax this to him at 916-484-8200) no later than March 1, 1998.
Listening Spirit Up for Auction?

by June and Gene Wilson

A Zimbabwe Shona sculpture, Listening Spirit, is being offered at auction by June and Gene Wilson at the Kansas City convention of the ILA in March. Proceeds are to be used for launch expenses of the newly approved Convention Paper Resource Center (CPRC).

The sculpture was discovered by Tom Hickerson in a side display window of the Zimbabwe Shona Sculpture gallery at the Sonoma, CA Plaza during a shopping foray there by June and Gene with Carolyn and Tom in November. June and Gene promptly purchased it, along with a companion sculpture which they will retain in their home.

\[Image of Listening Spirit sculpture\]

Acquiring Listening Spirit seemed like a fore-ordained act. According to June and Gene, it seemed destined to contribute in some meaningful way to the affairs of the ILA. And what better activity than the newly proposed CPRC, the creation of Carolyn Coakley Hickerson and Kathy Thompson. It is intended that the sculpture be auctioned during the proceedings of the convention and that the revenues be then earmarked for the CPRC.

Listening Spirit, sculpted in Chiweshe Serpentine stone by the artist, A. Chihota, is representative of Shona art. Most such art interprets the ancestral and animal spirit world. This sculptor has carved a work that simply echoes the lines of a human face, prominently featuring the ear.

ILA-CPRC, cont’d

(Continued from page 1)

because the ILA-CPRC is now here, and it will assist members and nonmembers in locating wanted and needed ILA convention papers. Beginning with the 1998 ILA Convention in Kansas City, Missouri, all presenters will be invited to submit their papers to Kathy Thompson, who, along with Carolyn Coakley—will then index the papers for purchase through a simple, accessible ordering system.

Here’s how the ILA-CPRC will work:

\[Bullet point\] All 1998 ILA Convention presenters are invited to submit their papers for inclusion in the CPRC. In January 1998, Thompson and Coakley will mail to each presenter an information packet containing an explanation of the submission process and a copy of the permission form to reproduce papers. Note: Reproduction of papers by persons other than ILA requires further permission from the copyright holder. Authors retain copyright even after a paper becomes part of the ILA-CPRC database.

\[Bullet point\] All types of ILA convention papers will be accepted; these include—but are not limited to—research papers, status reports on any aspect of listening, listening teaching/training techniques, and formal summaries of panel discussions. However, all papers must contribute—in some way—to the understanding of listening knowledge/attitudes/behaviors, be professional, be clearly reproducible, and NOT be the work of another/other.

\[Bullet point\] ILA convention papers will be annotated and indexed according to CPRC indexing guidelines. The CPRC Index will be made available via the ILA Web site—http://www.listen.org—and in hard copy for those who do not have access to the Internet. To assist nonmembers in reaching the site, members have a natural PR opportunity to do some ILA “name-and-address dropping.” Once there, nonmembers can explore all ILA resources—including the newest addition, the CPRC (to be implemented approximately one month after the April 15, 1998, deadline for submitting 1998 ILA Convention papers).

\[Bullet point\] ILA convention papers will then be made available on computer disk or in hard copy through Kathy Thompson at Alverno College. A nominal fee will be charged for duplicating and shipping. Watch for more information about purchasing an ILA convention paper or providing purchasing information to a colleague, a friend, or a potential ILA member.

Although the ILA-CPRC will begin with the indexing of submitted 1998 ILA Convention papers, we also will soon call for the collection of ILA convention papers presented between 1980 and 1997 and add them to the database. With the help of all past and present presenters (and collectors), Thompson and Coakley envision the CPRC as becoming the one-stop location for interested consumers who need/want ILA convention papers.
From Diana's Desk
by Diana Schnapp
Executive Director

Convention excitement!
By now some of you may have already received your early registration materials. There are a number of changes in procedures this year, so read carefully. More lines and boxes to check! But these changes will be to your advantage.

Big change: the special interest conferences for business and education are being held within the three days of the regular convention. Not new for education, but a big change for business. There will still be interest track programs at the same time; so if you choose not to attend the conference, you can still find a program to meet your needs. Another new item: notice that this year you can register guests early for the Thursday evening hospitality event and for the banquet, thus taking advantages of lower prices.

Roommate service will be offered again this year. Contact me as soon as you know you are coming to the convention, and I'll enter you in the database and send you information on others who are looking. The roommate service is listed in the registration sign-up sheet.

Also new: officer nomination forms and committee sign up sheets are included with your packet. If you are not going to be able to join us in Kansas City (so sad!), you can still send in nominations and committee choices. The names on the nomination forms will be sent to the Nominating Committee for consideration for 1999-2000. We also hope including the committee sign-up sheets will facilitate the prompt appointment of committees within a short time after the convention! You may go ahead and return those forms with your registration even if you are coming to the convention.

Remember to check on when your membership expires and to inform me of address changes. Failure to do both results in loss of newsletters, journals, directory updates, and contact with ILA news!

Please send me names of anyone you want to put on our convention mailing list. We want everyone possible to have the opportunity to attend this great event.

We hope to see all of you in Kansas City in March!

Who’s Who in Listening

If you would still like to be included in the latest edition of Who’s Who in Listening, please be sure to contact Lisa Darnell (LDarnell@unanov.una.edu or 205-760-4596) or Diana Schnapp (ISlistening@aol.com or 913-685-9228) no later than February 1, 1998.

Editor’s Ink
by Barbara B. Nixon

Ever since I found out in the summer I am pregnant with our third child, I have had a heightened sensitivity to a lot of things. Some of them are usual pregnancy-related things: smells, foods, motions, etc.

But one that I didn’t expect was that my listening skills have perked up — no, not my hearing (which is the same or worse than it usually is) — but my listening skills. I seem to have a keener awareness of the “construing meaning from” part of our definition of listening. I’m reading a lot more into what I think people mean by what they’re saying and not saying.

The nicest thing I’ve listened to in this pregnancy occurred when my husband and I were walking into a party at a friend’s house. As the host took my jacket, he looked at me (and my eight-months-along belly), smiled, and said, “Now, Barbara, I thought you were pregnant.” He made my night! Instead of over-explaining anything to him, I just grinned from ear to ear and said, “Thank you.”

If things go as planned — and babies don’t always agree with our plans — I will see all of you in Kansas City in March, with baby #3 in tow! I wonder if my listening skills will change....
3rd Annual Mid-South Regional Conference
Listening and Attending Across the Life Span

by Sheila Bentley

The Third Annual Mid-South Regional Conference will be held on Saturday, January 24, 1998, from 8:00AM-4:00PM, again at the beautiful Union Station Hotel in Nashville, TN. The title of this conference is Listening and Attending Across The Life Span.

Sessions will examine such factors as attention deficit disorder and other language and learning disabilities that affect listening and how to deal with the problems these disabilities create. Other sessions will examine listening across the curriculum and into the work world and making listening judgments more reliable.

Speakers will include Dr. Jane Hannah of the Child Development Center at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Marcy Sipes of the Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Speech and Hearing Center; and Jim Foglesong, a veteran of the music and recording industry; as well as ILA members, Charles Roberts and Sheila Bentley. Registration information is included with the Convention registration packet.

For further information, contact Sheila Bentley, Charles Roberts, or Lisa Darnell. Join us in Nashville!

If the person you are talking to doesn’t appear to be listening, be patient. It may just be that he has a small piece of fluff in his ear.

Post's Little Instruction Book
Inspired by A.A. Milne

For more quotes on listening, visit http://www.listen.org/pages/quotes.html

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES

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Listening n (1996): the process of receiving, constructing meaning from, and responding to spoken and/or nonverbal messages