

5SSEL026 Language Construction  
L8 Interactive session: Creating shibboleths

Shibboleths are used in language to help identify out-group individuals (e.g. the Ephraimites and Gileadites), to reflect cultural choices in the language (e.g. the retained French pronunciation for the English dish, **boeuf en croute**), and to make certain forms difficult (e.g. The way of identifying the self in Pravic is **KSotrekv**, a deliberately complex sound to discourage its use by children).

Can you think of uses for shibboleths in your language? Or, if your language is designed for clarity and inclusion, how can you avoid them?