

## Week 12 (April 25-May 1)

### Integrating Topical Choice, Formulations, and Questions into Grounding

#### Introduction

This week's work focuses on understanding how the three tools you learned about earlier -- topical choice, formulations, and questions -- function within the grounding process. As pointed out in Week 10, you can think of these three specific actions as a therapist's building blocks of meaning-making with grounding as the mortar that binds the bricks together.

All three of these tools often include information that is new to the dialogue. So the therapist's topical choice, a question, or the transformation in a formulation may be the first step in the grounding sequence. This week we will provide two grounding sequences that follow when a therapist introduces new information using any of these tools. We have selected completed grounding sequences that fit with the original rules from Week 10.

#### Learning Objectives

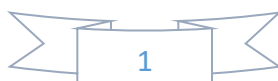
- This is an opportunity to integrate some of the analyses you have completed during this course.
- To identify how topical choice, formulations, and questions function within the grounding process.
- To practice articulating what is grounded at the end of each grounding sequence.

#### Readings

- Review the material from Weeks 4 – 10 (including the manuals/rules for analysis) to ensure that you have a good understanding of topic choice, formulations, questions, and grounding.

#### Exercise

1. Open the file titled “Exercise Week 12 Insoo and Sam.eaf” and link it to the Insoo and Sam video from Week 10. Notice that 21 tiers have been created for you. The first 10 tiers (including the transcript on tiers 1 and 2) contain a nearly completed grounding analysis for the first few seconds of this excerpt (15:42 -29:31). Begin this exercise by recording what has been grounded by each grounding sequence. The remaining steps of this exercise will be completed on ONLY these two grounding sequences (15:42-29:31).



2. Next, do a topic choice analysis for both therapist and client content (referring to the Rules for Week 4) for each utterance in the two grounding sequences (15:42-29:31). Record your analysis on tiers 11 and 12 (labeled “therapist topic choice” and “client topic choice.” (Remember that you can hide tiers that you have already completed.)
3. Then do a formulations analysis (Stages I-IV) on the same excerpt. Again, refer to the rules for this analysis (Weeks 6 and7). Don't forget to watch the beginning of the video for this analysis. Record your analysis on the tiers titled “contains a formulation” through “added.”
4. Finally, do a questions analysis from Week 8. Record your analysis on the following tiers: “not-knowing question.” “explicit request,” and “embedded presupposition(s),”  
Note: You do NOT do the 10 step model from Week 9.
5. Once you have completed your analysis for this week, upload your completed ELAN file to the Week 12 sub-folder in the Dropbox folder: “Uploads, IMA online course.”

## Postings

### 1. Questions

- a. What role did topic choice play in what was grounded in the Insoo and Sam video?
- b. What role did questions play in what was grounded?
- c. What role did formulations play in what was grounded?  
 (“Questions” post is due by midnight Saturday, April 29.)

### 2. Comparisons

- a. Download two other completed exercises in ELAN for this week to your desktop. After reviewing these ELANs, pick one and compare the observations you made to those made by that colleague.
- b. Post on your comparison, discussing both agreements and differences in your analyses.  
 (“Comparisons” post is due by midnight Monday, May 1.)

