

Face Threatening Acts from Brown and Levinson (1987)

Face threatening acts (FTAs) can be done:

- **on the record** - unambiguously and with a certain directness, it is clear what the actor intends
- **off the record** - ambiguously and with a certain indirectness, the actor cannot be held to a particular intent
- **baldly, without redress** - clearly, unambiguously and in the most direct manner (e.g. Do X!)
- **with redress** – to give face and counteract potential face damage

Possible strategies for doing FTAs

