# Part 2: Communicating Culture: Language and Expressive Culture

## Key Terms and Definitions

**Dialect**: Regional or class variation of a language.

**Discourse**: Verbal and spoken communication.

**Genderlect**:Linguistic differences by gender.

**Language**: Communication system consisting of words, sounds, or signs used to express and communicate meaning.

**Language ideology**: Widespread assumptions about the degree to which some languages or dialects are superior or more sophisticated than others.

**Language revitalization**: Efforts to preserve or revive languages that are on the verge of extinction.

**Metaphor**: Use of a word or phrase to express similarities between two things that are not inherently comparable.

**Performativity:** speech as a form of social action.

**Sociolinguistics**:A branch of anthropological linguistics that studies the relationship between language and culture, with attention to how language use differs by social context.

**Symbol**: Anything that stands for something else (e.g., an image, character, object, idea, etc.)