**Chapter 4: Listening Critically**

**Discussion Questions and Activities**

1. Ask students to complete the following assessment <http://www.jamescmccroskey.com/measures/wtlisten.htm>. Students should reflect upon their results by describing situations that challenge their ability to listen.
2. Ask students to locate cultural proverbs that are related to listening. Students should share the proverb and interpret the meaning. Which cultures are more similar in their approach to listening? Which are the least similar?
3. How can an audience avoid biased listening? How can an audience avoid passive listening?
4. Ask the students to view Reagan’s Challenger Speech <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEjXjfxoNXM> using empathic listening. What is the emotional tone of the speech? Does the emotional tone change over the course of the speech? Ask the students to view the same speech using comprehensive listening. What is the purpose of the message? Ask students to compare the results from both forms of listening? How well does Reagan convey the purpose of the speech using the appropriate tone?
5. Identify two weaknesses associated with your listening habits. Identify a plan to address or overcome these weaknesses for the next student presentations.