

ME304, Fall 2019
Reflection #2 – More about words

The intent of last week's reflection was to help you think about how challenging good communication can be. We may think words have a very specific meaning, but sometimes that meaning is not what the speaker or writer had in mind. Hopefully, this understanding causes each of us to pause before reaching a conclusion (or judging) in professional, political, social and personal communication. It should also cause us to pause to make sure our audience understands us.

In this week's reflection, I am asking you to look up definitions/descriptions/discussions of two common words – so common, that we assume we know what they mean. I am sure we do have a pretty good understanding, but these words are so profound, I am not sure we can ever fully comprehend them. Having a clear and deep understanding of these words can have a profound impact on our lives professionally, politically, spiritually and personally. Do some digging into what both "liberty" and "freedom" mean. Utilize online dictionaries, encyclopedias (such as Wikipedia), *et cetera*.