

Is of Projection (Predication)

In the normal scheme of things, when we observe something, that information reaches our brain and we form an image, which in turn we label. The “IS” of projection or predication, or as we called in an earlier lesson, the “IS” of fiction, reverses that process.

We create an image and label in our mind and project it out upon a person, place, or thing. Quite frequently the image we project has negative overtones.

Examples:

Monroe is dumb!
All his relatives are lazy.
Germans are good engineers.

In propaganda this ‘is’ appears in order to demonize or belittle an enemy.
They are brutal, sadistic rodents.

Employing negative projection statements generally arouses a negative semantic reaction on the part of the subject. Or as they said in the old West, “Them’s fightin’ words.” And often they become just that between individuals, races, and nations.

Utilizing the ‘is’ of projection in our speech requires us to believe that we can perform the impossible, that is, we can create something in our brain and project it out into the real world. We pretend that we can equate Monroe (an entity outside our skins) to dumb, (something created inside our skins) Rather, we should content ourselves with the possible, and eliminate this use of the verb ‘to be’ in this injurious manner. To wit:

Monroe acts dumb at times.
Some (you do not know them all) of his relatives seem to avoid work.
German engineers have a good reputation.

The next time you are tempted to make a global statement about a group, race, nation, individual, etc., utilizing the ‘is’ of projection—don’t. Change your thought to something verifiable, and avoid “them fightin’ words.” Besides, what amounts to name calling reminds us about the saying, “Sticks and stones can break my bones, but names upset my psyche.”