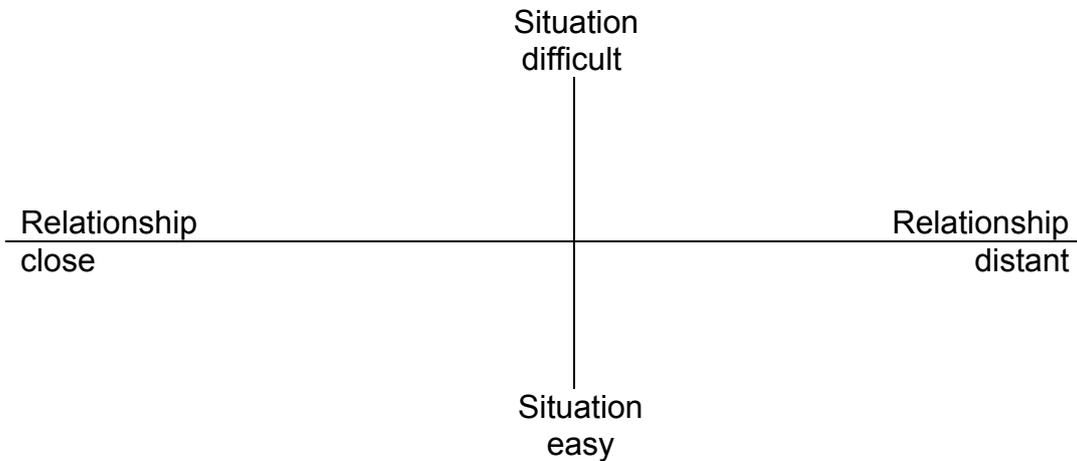




Recognising formal and informal language



Decide where to place these examples of **formal or informal language** on the grid. Remember, we tend to use more informal language with people we are close to and in situations where we feel most comfortable. We are more formal with people we don't know so well and in situations which are more difficult or uncomfortable.

- A. "Could you tell me how to get to the nearest post office please?"
- B. "More tea?"
- C. "You can't go out in that!"
- D. "Thank you so much for all your assistance."
- E. "It's been a pleasure to meet you."
- F. "Lend us a tenner 'til tomorrow."
- G. "Where's my coat?"
- H. "Would you be interested in taking part in a competition? "
- I. "I would like to make a complaint about your service."
- J. "You can't be serious!"

Think about how close or distant the relationship between the speaker and their audience might be, and how easy or difficult the situation might be.

There are lots of possible answers. Compare your answers with a friend's.