

“blueprint,” “enterprise,” “consolidation,” “integration,” “mitigation,” “life cycle,” and “corporate citizenship.” Honestly, what can you get out of this statement, printed by a Wall St. consulting company, “When you become a utility, mobility and agility don’t stay where they should.”

So, what is to be done? I do not propose any specific remedies to the

plague of English that is in use on Wall Street. Yet, recognition of such debasement is long overdue. After all, people spend most of their lives not listening to political speeches, or reading academic writing—they spend it at work. It is enough that most of us work meaningless, unfulfilling jobs—let’s at least have some meaning left in the language. ∫

ESSAY CONTEST WINNER

## FROM STRUCTURAL LINGUISTICS TO POLITICAL ACTION:

### Saussure’s Influence on Laclau and Mouffe’s Theory of Discourse

*By Ritchie Savage*

In *Hegemony and Socialist Strategy*, Laclau and Mouffe attempt to provide a new theory of revolution and political action that does not fall victim to the contradictions inherent in Marxist theory.

Laclau and Mouffe argue that contradictions in Marxist theory stem from a reliance on notions of objectivity and historical necessity. In order to maintain this illusion of objectivity, Marxists tend

