

Words Poorly Used #104 — Clarity

POTUS keeps having a legislative and executive agenda, but he appears to fear any kind of specificity regarding details. Is this so that he can claim that any misshapen mess represents a success of deal-making? The word misused in this case is “clarity.” It is misused in that it is not pursued where it should be. Politicians like to keep their powder dry, to use an old piece of figurative language. They prefer to let the unforeseen consequences occur, then take credit for whatever has happened. If they practice clarity beforehand, they would be constrained to a logical outcome. But their motto obviously is always take credit, never take blame. A stark example was shown this week when congress persons pointed out that there were no details about tax reform. That is by design; no matter what happens to the effort, everybody can claim clairvoyance.

— Kilgore Forelle