William Lindgren* (william.lindgren@sru.edu) and Thomas Banchoff. The Square's talk: the language of Flatland.

The pun in the title-page epigraph of Flatland (“Fie, fie, how frantically I square my talk”) alludes to an important dimension of Edwin Abbott’s classic romance: its extraordinary language. In this talk we discuss Abbott’s idiomatic usage of various mathematical terms in constructing his extended geometric metaphor. (Received September 23, 2005)