Reading Journal

Copy + Paste this template into a different document (do not try to type directly on it). Then fill it out and post to your blog.

Title of Article + Proper MLA Citation for Works Cited page	Inviting the Mother Tongue: Beyond "Mistakes," "Bad English," and "Wrong Language" Elbow, Peter. "Inviting the Mother Tongue: Beyond "Mistakes," "Bad English," and "Wrong Language" <i>Journal of Advanced Composition</i> . pp. 359-365
Summarize the article include your reaction, thoughts, anything to help you remember its claims. 100 to 150 words	The article starts off slow but begins to explain the issues the author is attempting to address. First, he states the idea that there are different english dialects, none are incorrect grammatically, they are just different. The author also addresses the fact that SWE (standard written english) is not the actual "mother-tongue" of the english language. Furthermore he dived into the specific dialects that those who are educated may refer to as "broken, inferior, or defective" and discusses why that is not the case. Personally, growing up in the inner city of Chicago, Illinois, I am very used to hearing ebonics and different vernaculars that are mostly originating from the african american population. I find it kind of sad that some view it as broken english when it really is just a different dialect. Eventually the author explains that the difference in vernacular and dialect between races and even classes is not because of race or class, it's a byproduct of the education they received.
Define new terms and concepts by quoting or paraphrasing the original author.	Stigmatized- To apply a negative connotation "If I spoke a stigmatized dialect, my speech would be widely experienced as stupid- and I along with it."

How does this reading connect to other articles from class and/or your own research?

Personally, this article was a very interesting read for me. I've always been a city kid and lived in urban environments, and I've come to learn it's easy to tell whether people are from the city or country by their dialect- at least amongst teenagers and kids. City kids tend to use a lot more slang and talk a lot faster, whereas kids from other settings are much more formal and relaxed when they speak. I've always found that interesting and this reading connected to it because it definitely has something to do with ebonics and the effect it's had on the english dialect in my city.

Based on the reading, craft one question to act as a springboard for class discussion.

Do you believe that there is still a stigmatization that comes with ebonics or broken english or different forms of the english vernacular?