

# Reading Journal

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<p><b>Title of Article + <a href="#">Proper MLA Citation</a> for Works Cited page</b></p>	<p>Gee, James Paul. "What Is Literacy?" Boston, Massachusetts, 1987.</p>
<p><b>Summarize the article -- include your reaction, thoughts, anything to help you remember its claims. 100 to 150 words</b></p>	<p>In "What is Literacy?," Gee starts by defining the term "discourse" (as a count term versus a mass term) and proceeds to list the various important points that someone can make about discourses (ideology, scrutiny/criticism, relationship, social power). He then points out the distinction between acquisition and learning and notes that "the balance between the two can be quite different in different cases and different at different stages in the process;" he also states that acquirers are better performers, while learners are better analyzers and explainers. He then connects his studies to that of reading and literacy and suggests that "learning should be able all children to critique their primary and secondary discourses."</p>

<p><b>Define new terms and concepts by <a href="#">quoting or paraphrasing</a> the original author.</b></p>	<p>Discourse: a socially accepted association among ways of using language, of thinking, and of acting that can be used to identify oneself as a member of a socially meaningful group or “social network.”</p> <p>Acquisition: a process of acquiring something subconsciously by exposure to models and a process of trial and error, without a process of formal teaching.</p> <p>Learning: a process that involves conscious knowledge gained through teaching, though not necessarily from a designated teacher.</p>
<p><b>How does this reading connect to other articles from class and/or your own research?</b></p>	<p>Geer discussing how discourses have their own sets of values and speaking connects to Elbow’s explication of how “The Mother Tongue” is the English dialect people are accustomed to based off their surroundings.</p>
<p><b>Based on the reading, craft one question to act as a springboard for class discussion.</b></p>	<p>What are some explicit examples of discourses in today’s society.</p>