

TSIS WORKSHEET ON RESPONDING

ENGL 108 / SEC. H & I / SUMMER LEAP 2009 / OLDHAM & RUBASKY / CHANG & LEE



Responding to a Conversation

In the first template exercise on “Beginning with What Others Are Saying,” we practiced how to understand and summarize other people’s points in a purposeful way. Now that you have picked which author you want to write about, it’s time to start thinking about what you want to say about your own experiences with literacy.

Keeping the “What Others Are Saying” template in mind, use the template below to begin laying out some thoughts about what purpose literacy served for you in the experiences you want to use. Remember that you are not just offering an opinion on literacy, but describing how literacy worked for you and what it did, just like the author’s description you gave in the first template. Not everyone’s narratives will follow this pattern, and you can modify the template to fit your own story, but think of this as a brainstorming exercise to help you get at the main points of your narrative. Again, it’s like practicing putting together a paragraph:

For me, literacy means _____

_____. It was not always this way.

When I think about my experiences with literacy, I think of _____

_____.

What I remember most about literacy in this example is _____

_____. This is because _____

_____. It also makes me think about _____

_____, which is important because _____

_____.

These experiences are examples of how literacy helped me to _____

_____.

In the first example, I thought that _____

_____, and in the second, I thought that _____

_____.

When I look back on these experiences now I see that literacy means _____

_____,

which is supported by the fact that I now _____

_____.