

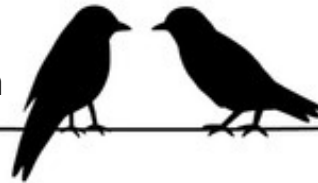
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# Making Meaning Together



## Peer Review of Teaching

**Matt Russell**  
University of Texas Austin

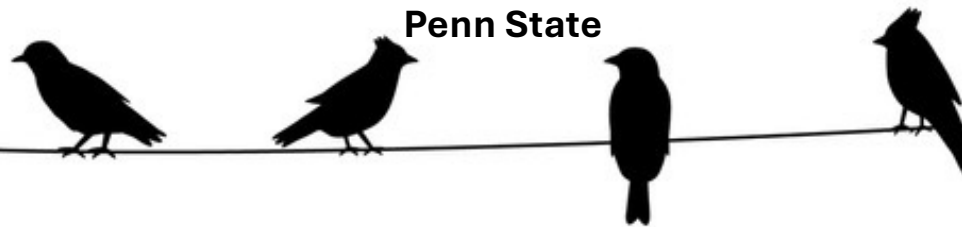


**Robert Gray**  
University of Bergen

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## With the WRITERLY Framework

**Laura Cruz**  
Penn State



**What does good teaching look like?**

What is **THE WRITERLY**?

# Roland Barthes

- **Readerly Texts:**  
offer a limited number of possible interpretations
- **Writerly Texts:**  
require the reader to actively participate in the production of the text's meaning, "to make the reader no longer a consumer, but a producer of the text."

(S/Z, pp. 3-4)



What is **WRITERLY TEACHING**?

# Rethinking Learning

Learning is not an act of recording, but an act of interpretation, or “(re)writing”

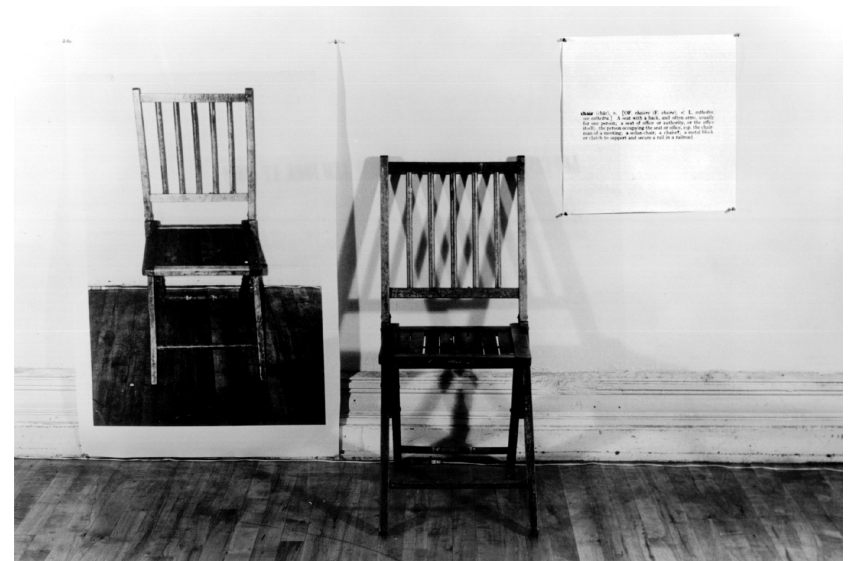
13 ways of looking at a blackbird



wallace stevens  
illustrations by corinne jones

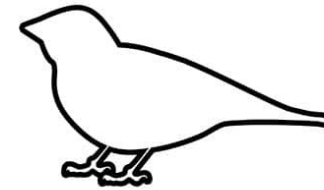
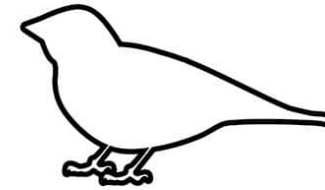
# Courses as “Texts”

- A text is any combination of “signs” that convey meaning
- A course is a complex web of signifiers and signifieds
- Literary theory enables us to explore these relationships between content, instructors, and students



# Readerly Teaching (and Learning)

- The instructor presumes to have all the answers and hold full authority
- The content has “nothing more to say than what it says”
- The student’s role is to receive the message uncritically
- Students generate products, not engage in productions





# Writerly Teaching (and Learning)

- Is the course content a reified object, something that is fixed and just sits on a shelf?
- Or is it “*an activity, a production,*” a living thing that comes alive with each student’s reading?
- The writerly links teaching and learning “together in a single signifying process.”



SUPERSTARWORKSHEETS

(Barthes, 1971, p. 237. p. 79)

# The Writerly Framework

- Creating Spaces
- Engaging in Dialogue
- Making Meaning



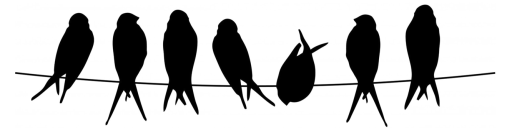
W R I T E R L Y

FOSTERING TEACHING AND  
LEARNING MOMENTS



# SPOT the Writerly Moment

- Read the following excerpts (from 3 online courses).
- Which moment best exemplifies the WRITERLY?
- Which moment least exemplifies the WRITERLY?
- Discuss your choices with your group.



# AMPLIFY the Writerly

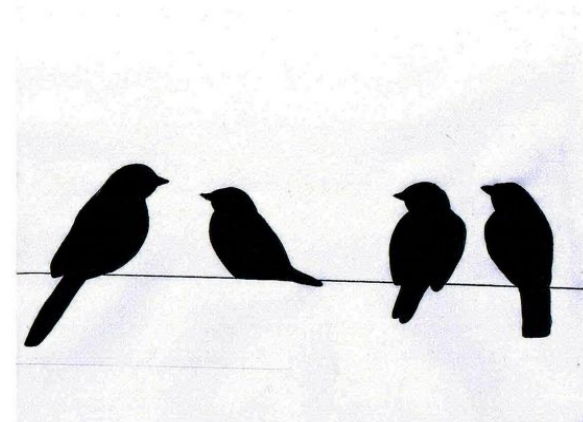
- Choose a partner to pair up with.
- Read the following activity and review the writerly framework.
- Together, see if you can identify 3 strategies to amplify the writerly in this moment.



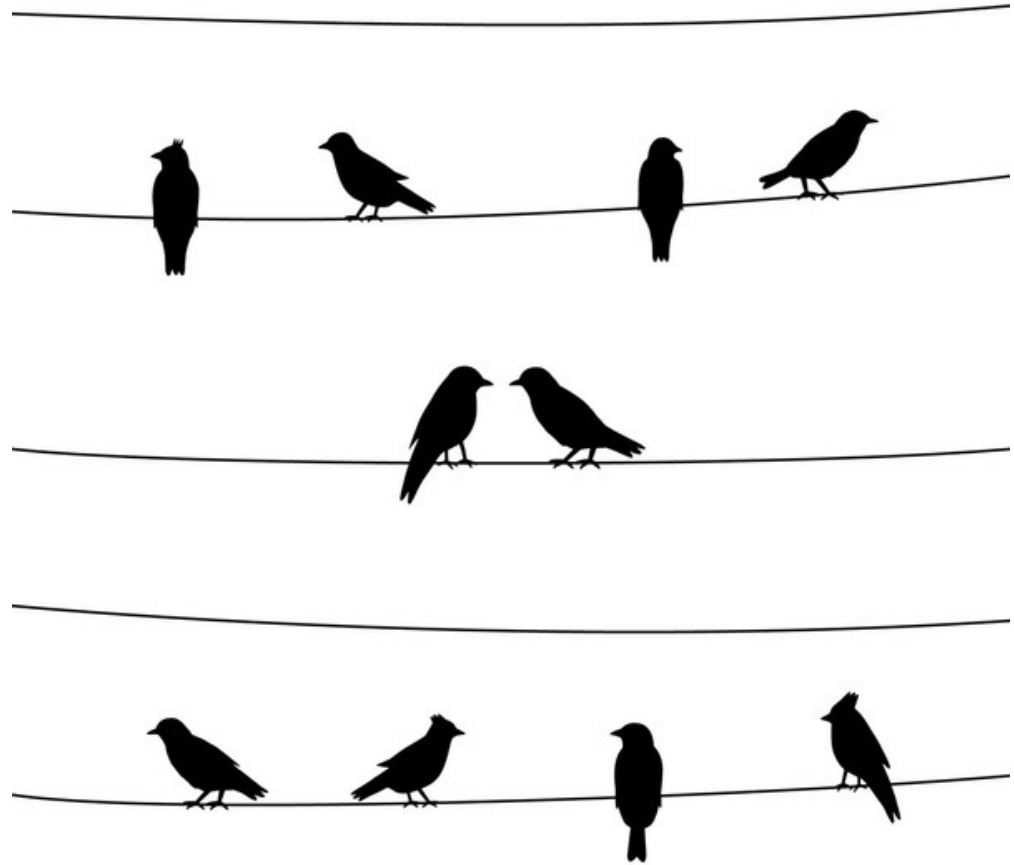
shutterstock.com · 259611065

# WRITERLY teaching

- Choose a writerly moment from your own teaching.
- Write that moment down on the sheet provided.
- Place the sheet along the wall.
- Take a moment to read what others have written.
- Use the materials provided to share your response(s).



Where can  
you have  
more  
**WRITERLY**  
moments?



**Join the WRITERLY movement...**

