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Critical Response #2

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The Importance of Text

Every piece of writing has an important message. It is the writer's job to communicate the message and the reader's job to comprehend the message. Adler, Lamott, and Bradbury expressed this common view in many different ways.

Adler looked at it through the eyes of the reader. In his piece, "How to Mark a Book", Adler put responsibility on the reader to find importance in pieces of writing. He stressed the importance of being a careful reader. There are so many great messages and ideas brought about in writing and if you read too fast you just might miss it. That is why Adler thinks it is so important to take that extra time and annotate carefully. Before arriving at the University of Illinois, I would have disagreed strongly with Adler. I would have believed that it would be more beneficial for me to rush through the chapter so I could do something more productive. The truth is reading any sort of thing, whether it's about history, sports, or math is the most productive thing you can do. If you're going to do it, do it right and absorb every piece of information you can.

Lamott expressed this idea through the eyes of the writer. In her piece, *Shitty First Drafts*, Lamott stressed the importance of not giving up on your writing. If one is so picky at first about what they write, ideas will not flow and messages will not be shared with the world. There's always a bit of good in every writing and even messing up 49 sentence out of 50 can lead you to something amazing. When I start a paper, I usually write my first sentence and delete it five or

six times until I move on. Lamott has convinced me that I should just write, not stop but write. Odds are if you just write, you will find that message hidden that you want to share with the world.

Bradbury looked at literature as a whole. Becoming a better reader and writer starts with exploration and being open minded. Who knows the amazing things that you can find or create unless you try? Bradbury is going to change the way I see books and articles. I am not going to be as picky as I used to and begin to explore the endless possibilities the world of text has to offer.