

Two Year College English Association - Pacific Coast
Use of Open Educational Resources
Hartnell College - Part Time and Full Time Faculty Responses

Summary of identified textbooks in current/recent use:

English 1A

They Say/I Say 4th Edition, by Graff and Birkenstein
Dialogues an Argument Rhetoric and Reader, 8th Edition

Essays/Collections

The Compassionate Instinct by Keltner, Marsh, Smith
Educated by Tara Westover
The Wave by Sonali Deraniyagala
The Displaced: Refugee Writers on Refugee Lives ed. by Viet Thanh Nguyen , David
Bezmozgis
Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do? by Michael Sandel

OER: Inconsistent use; many beginning to explore.

English 2

Critical Thinking a Student's Introduction, 6th Edition
Everyone's an Author by Andrea Lunsford
Thinking for Yourself by Marlys Mayfield

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Narrative statements from email responses to query, some edited for concision:

- What textbook are you currently using, and how do you feel about its contents and price?

For 1A, I'm using my own materials (handouts, videos, and presentations). I have used and adapted some open-source material for that, but it is mostly my own work. I also assign a book-length work, but not a textbook. This semester it is Turkle's *Reclaiming Conversation*.

I use *They Say/I Say 4th Edition*, by Graff and Birkenstein; it retails around \$25, and we cover most of the text interspersed throughout my ENG 2 course. This is the second semester I have required the text, and I will determine after this semester whether or not I would like to continue with it. Students seem to have no trouble getting the book.

I use *Dialogues an Argument Rhetoric and Reader, 8th Edition* for English 1A and *Critical Thinking a Student's Introduction, 6th Edition* for English 2.

I feel the reading selections are dated in the former but the price is affordable. For the latter, the paper edition is pricey but the ebook version is affordable and the content is very good.

I have developed my own course packet. I also use a different "long" text each semester. This semester I am using *The Compassionate Instinct*. Previous semesters I have used memoirs such as *Educated* by Tara Westover and *The Wave* by Sonali Deraniyagala, and collections of essays all on a singular topic, such as *The Displaced: Refugee Writers on Refugee Lives*.

For ENG 1A/X I use *They Say, I Say* by Gerald Graff. For English 2, I use *Everyone's an Author* (but I'm not using it this semester because I'm testing a themed course)

The book I use is the one recommended on the Course Outlines: *Dialogues* by Gary Goshgarian and Kathleen Krueger. While the book has some great essays and articles and some interesting chapter exercises, I personally feel that the content is often too abstract....It goes without saying that this book is also very expensive, but most textbooks are.

The contents [in my textbook choices] work well for the courses, but the cost is high. I encourage students to shop around (try Amazon, etc.) and/or to apply for book vouchers.

I decided not to use a regular textbook this semester for English 1B and 2. Quite a few students do not buy the books because of the cost, and many of the readings do not excite me.

In brief conversations, a small handful mentioned that they lean toward using trade paperbacks ranging from nonfiction narrative (e.g. *Educated* by Westover) to political philosophy (e.g. *Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?* by Michael Sandel) and supplement with scans of articles posted to Canvas.

- If you are using OER, what are you using, or have you created your own? How do you feel about its contents?

For ENG 2, I'm still using *Thinking for Yourself* by Marlys Mayfield. I love a lot of that book, but it is time to let it go because it is no longer being updated. I plan to use my own materials instead, starting in Fall 2020.

I do not use OER typically; I do, however, make my own content by sourcing many different books, articles, and videos.

As for OER, I have not used it because the selections seem either too basic, too advanced (graduate level) or too narrowly focused.

I am not using OER consistently, and I have not created my own (although I would like to eventually!)

I also incorporate OER in the form of videos such as Ted talks and free online exercises - for mechanics of writing.

I am beginning to explore these resources. For now I am using my own notes, handouts, and PDF's within the Fair Use guidelines.

Of note, our library on campus is making a big push to educate all departments about OER, offering guidance and workshops on how to access resources, and offering to work with faculty members to integrate OER resources.

- Provide any commentary about OER and/or textbook prices and quality.

I've taken a few workshops on OER, and I co-wrote the reader Hartnell uses for ENG 253, which was a project to bring the textbook cost down for students. What I've found with OER materials so far, though, is that it is incredibly time and labor intensive, and that ends up being a deterrent for me.

I don't have a problem requiring textbooks, as long as the students will use most of the content, and the cost stays under \$30. I plan to research more content via OER in the future.

Expensive textbooks prevent too many students from getting their materials on time or at all.

My concerns about high textbook prices are solely on behalf of my students. Although they very often seem able to access the texts online for free.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Gray