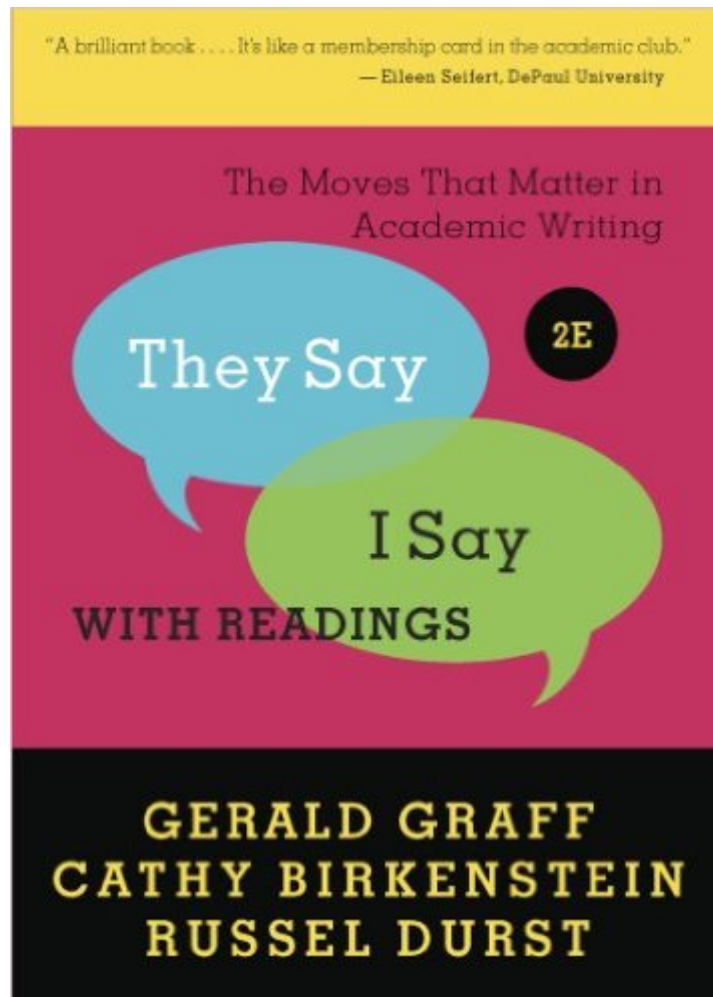


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# "They Say / I Say": The Moves That Matter In Academic Writing With Readings (Second Edition)



## Synopsis

The best-selling text/reader on academic writing. *They Say / I Say* demystifies academic writing by identifying its key rhetorical moves, the most important of which is to summarize what others have said ("they say") to set up one's own argument ("I say"). The book also provides templates to help students make these key moves in their own writing. This version includes readings that demonstrate those moves and provide stimulating conversations for them to enter. The Second Edition includes an anthology of 44 readings that will provoke students to think and write about five important issues, including two new ones: *Is Higher Education Worth the Price?* and *Why Does It Matter Who Wins the Big Game?*

## Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #4,983 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in [Books > Reference > Words, Language & Grammar > Rhetoric](#) #17 in [Books > Textbooks > Reference > Writing Skills](#) #17 in [Books > Textbooks > Reference > Encyclopedias](#)

## Customer Reviews

Even as a writer, writing teacher, and rhetorician, I could not see how many gaps I left in my writing until this book. So much of the writing process was just flung at me in public school that I was fortunate to absorb dribs and drabs. Graff, Birkenstein, and Durst dismantle writing into a system, based on the most recent rhetorical research, and lay the process out in short chapters, plain language, and a scheme of templates that students can use to kick-start their own writing. The authors' thesis is that writing is an uncomplicated process which can be reduced to a handful of rhetorical components. If students see writing as a social act, joining a larger conversation already in process, they will produce engaging writing which both they and their teachers will enjoy. Since the book is laced with examples of effective and ineffective writing, there is no doubt as to which the authors aim for, making evaluation a simple, somewhat objective process. This book seeks to be

accessible to a mass audience. It's written in vernacular English, using examples from current culture and respected print sources. It is so straightforward that teachers can use it at multiple levels, from advanced middle school up through college composition. It's so explicit that it could even be used without a teacher, with only a writing group or college writing center to fill in the role of hands-on assistance with individual problems. This "With Readings" edition contains the full text of Graff and Birkenstein's original short primer of the same title. The original is less than 150 pages and can be digested in small segments by teachers and students alike.

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