

# Discourse

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In literary and rhetorical analysis, the word “discourse” refers to any spoken or written communication produced by the [communicator](#).

The word “discourse” includes oral speech such as speeches, lectures, sermons, and other forms of oral communication as well as written text such as books, articles, essays, or any other written material. This is because both can be subject to analysis for their rhetorical and literary qualities.

“Discourse” covers not only the actual words and language used in communication, but also the social, cultural, and contextual factors surrounding communication. “Discourse” often implies a more comprehensive view of communication, encompassing not just the linguistic elements but also the broader socio-cultural frameworks and power dynamics that shape communication.

## See also

- [Text](#)

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