

# Literacy Problem Statement

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## Problem Statement

- Children and adults alike lack literacy skills such as speaking, writing legibly, grammar concepts, and critical thinking and comprehension. This leads to easy manipulation from people with more power, and a lack of belief in education and experience from people with lower literacy skills.

## Who is experiencing the problem?

- The people specifically experiencing the problem are people generally in less fortunate conditions, such as children in poor education systems, high school dropouts, unemployed adults, black and Hispanic adults, lower class individuals, and incarcerated individuals. This problem is also experienced in general with the emphasis on STEM majors, and the lack of emphasis on humanities and art majors.

## Where does the problem present itself?

- This problem presents itself in everyday life. Low literacy rates lead to lack of critical thinking skills and empathy, and increase irrational decisions, and chances for manipulation. Without these vital skills, people don't know how to properly consider all aspects of an issue, and often jump to rash and bad conclusions, and act, accordingly, leading to a lack of empathy for the people this decision may impact. This also leads to poverty, as literacy skills are highly valued in high-earning positions.

## Why does it matter?

- To give every person an equal and fair shot at success, literacy is extremely important. The ability to think critically, understand important documents, write with correct grammar, and make rational decisions, are all benefits that employers look for, as well as higher emotional intelligence, the ability to research effectively and create opinions that truly reflect an individual's values, selflessness, and a boost in creativity that people will benefit from, and create happier, less stressful lives.