Literacy is a topic of ambiguity according to both Gee and Scriber and therefore require them to approach this ambiguous idea as a concept set forth by our society. Scriber’s notion of literacy as Power defines literacy as a way of social participation through which it can advance to next level. This advancement however, is not limited to society as a whole but can be extended individuals who make up the society. For example, a society filled with literate group of people such as UC Berkeley, continually advances and is now at position of world’s best public university, and this advancement can be seen within the society as well, where professors are at the top of the hierarchy.

This concept of setting certain groups of people apart can also be seen in Gee’s notion of dominant discourses, where people are born with different primary discourses. And this differentiation facilitates different secondary-dominant discourses within our society, and thus separates people with discourses that are socially acceptable as elite. Taking UC Berkeley as an example again, students with the ability to learn better and discourses that are more aligned with those of the professor quickly gain the information being presented and thus attain a greater position within our academic community.

This relationship is very important to keep in mind in a classroom setting since every student in the classroom has different primary discourses that they build their academic discourse upon and thus there is a need to find a way of instruction or teaching so that all students are given equal opportunity to gain their academic discourse and progress in their life their entailed power. According to Gee the most natural way of accomplishing this is minimizing learning and maximizing acquiring.