



Education and Culture
Lifelong Learning Programme



**Literacy Education in Prison:
Policies, Practices, Ethnographies of a 'Third Space'
GRU-13-GRAT-21-TM**

**Romania, Timisoara
November 18-23 2013**

Dr. Mihaela TILINCA

working definition

Literacy as

‘the ability to read, write, use numbers, to manipulate information, to express ideas and opinions, to take decisions and solve problems, as family members, as employees, as citizens and as individuals that are lifelong learners’

(Scottish Governement definition quoted in Tett, Hamilton, Hillier, 2006:46)



what are we talking about?

home

INDIVIDUAL

street

community

NETWORKS

urban life

workplace

FAMILY

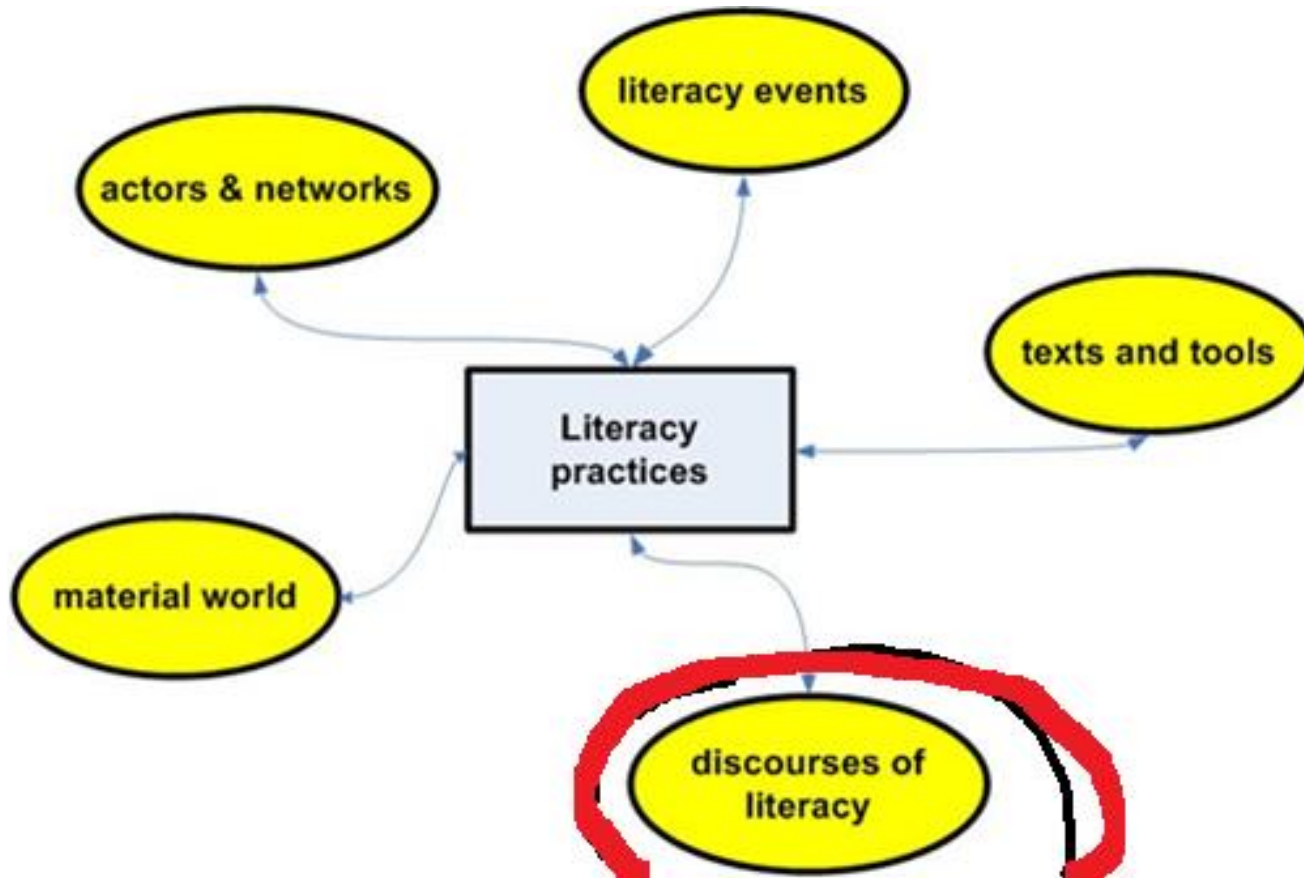
social roles

SOCIETY

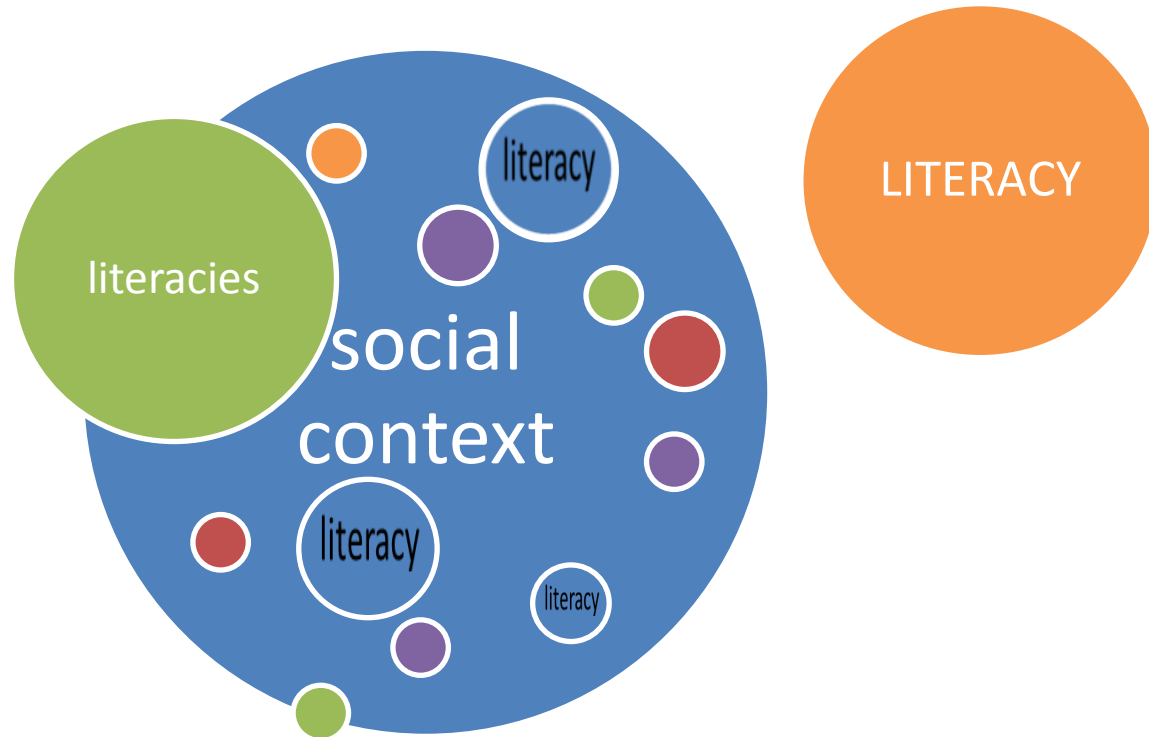
political rights

literacy...as a social practice

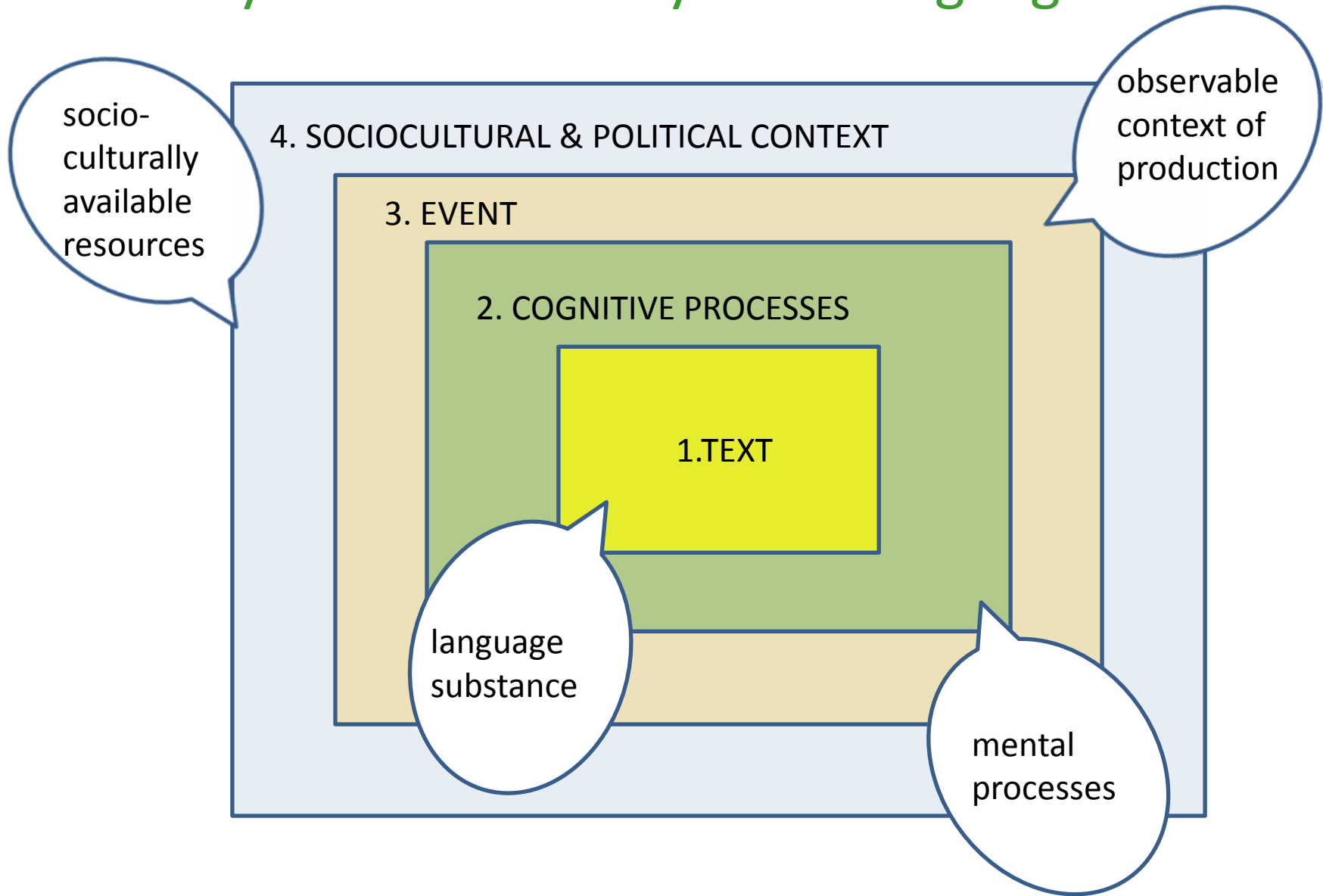
social practice...elements



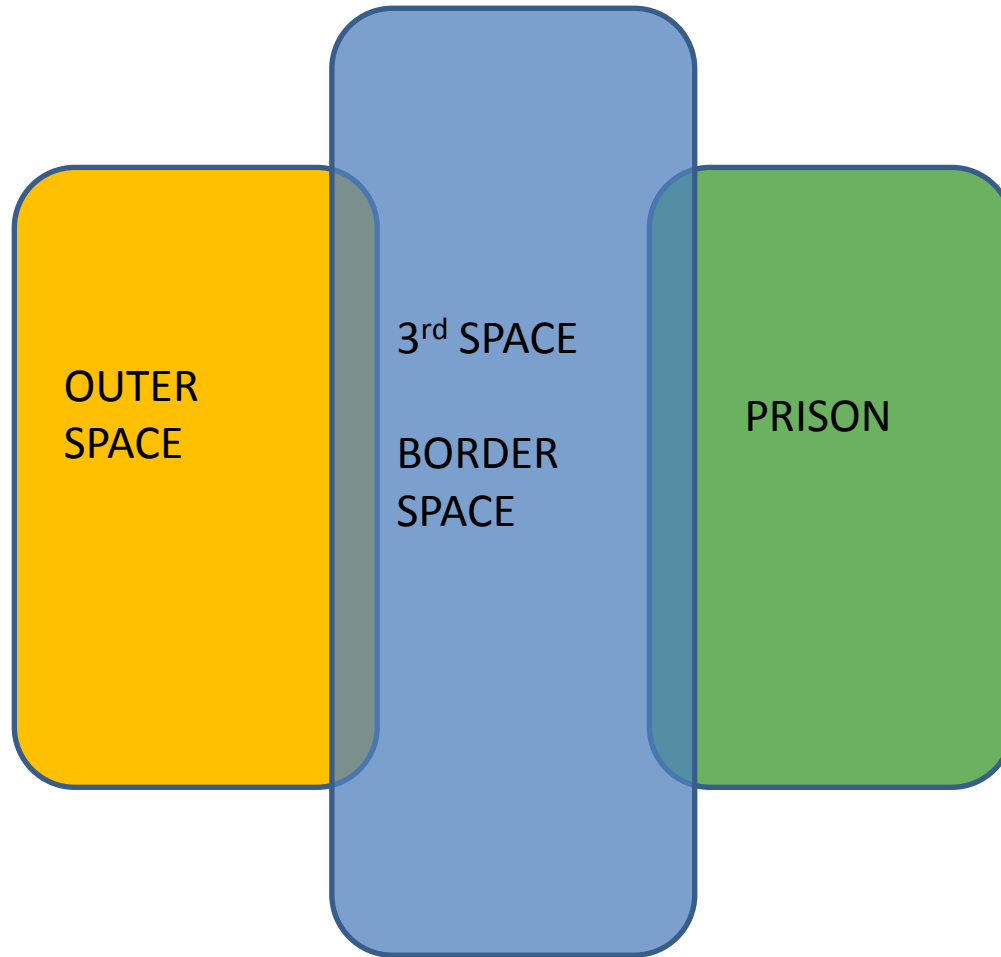
literacy...as a social practice



literacy definitions < layers of language



literacy...as a social practice



literacy...public & private discourses

whose perspective? what definitions of literacy?



illiteracy...public & private discourses

Barton, 1994
Literacy

Talking About Literacy

13

Table 2.1 Some ways of talking about literacy

Condition	Response	Means	Goal	Application
1 Sickness	Treatment	Clinical intervention	Remittance	
Handicap	Rehabilitation	Compensatory aids	Alleviation	Dyslexia
2 Ignorance	Training	Instruction	Mastery	Orthodox literacy tuition
3 Incapacity	Therapy	Counselling	Adjustment Assimilation Autonomy	
4 Oppression	Empowerment	Political organizational/ legislation	Rights	Conscien- tization
5 Deprivation	Welfare	Reallocation of material resources	Benefit	Positive discrimination
6 Deviance	Control	Isolation Containment Physical coercion	Correction Conformity	Negative discrimination

SICKNESS

TREATMENT

HANDICAP

REHAB WORK

IGNORANCE

TRAINING

INCAPACITY

THERAPY

OPRESSION

EMPOWERMENT

DEPRIVATION

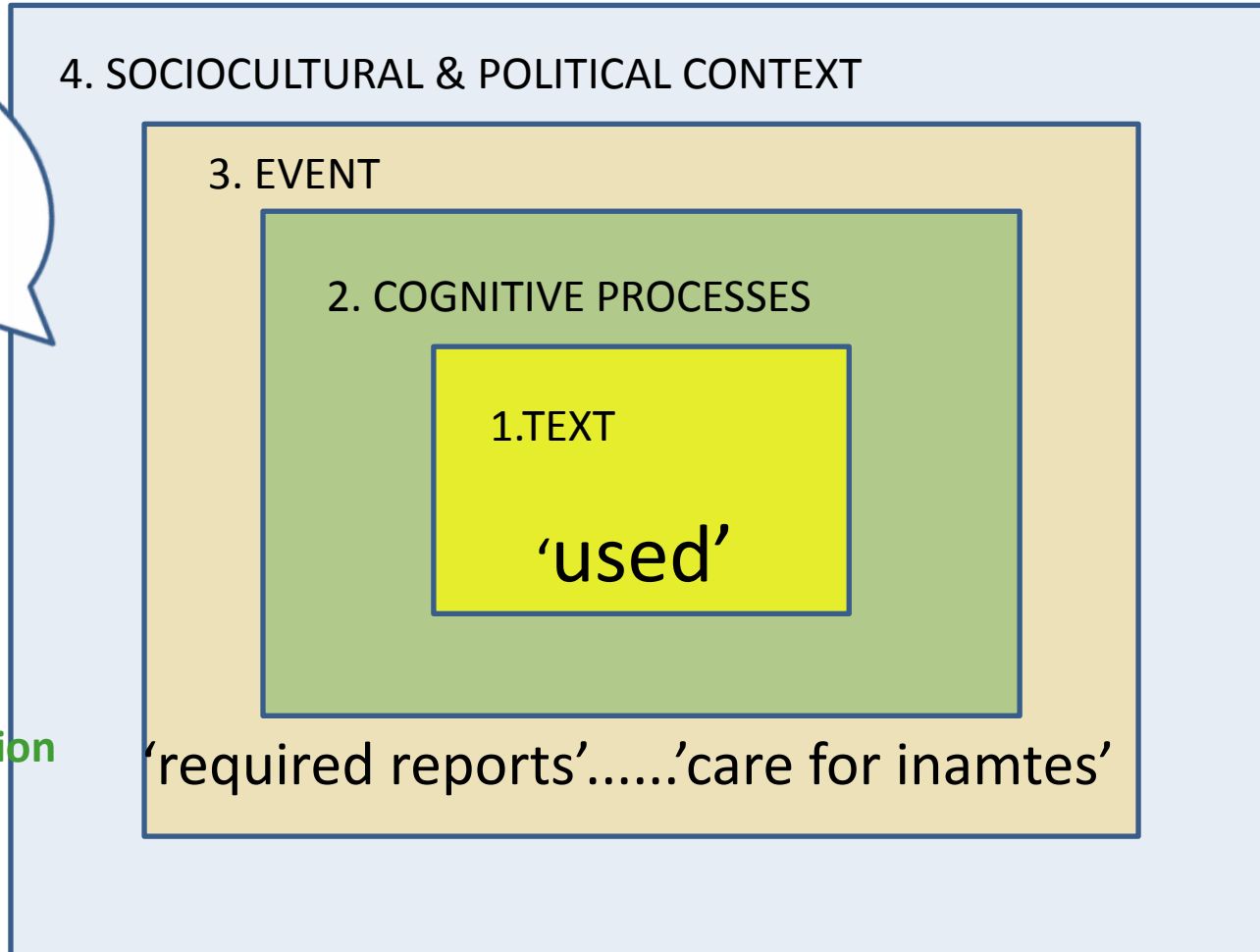
WELFARE

DEVIANCE

CONTROL

literacy ...language...limits of the world

**CLASHING
DISCOURSES**



inmates
crime
punishment

inmates
deprived
re-education

literacy education in prison

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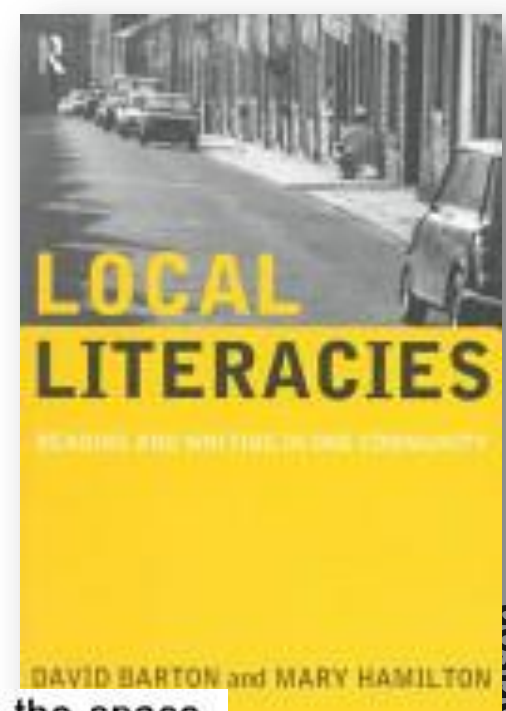
literacy...research

what definitions of literacy?

New Literacy Studies

David BARTON

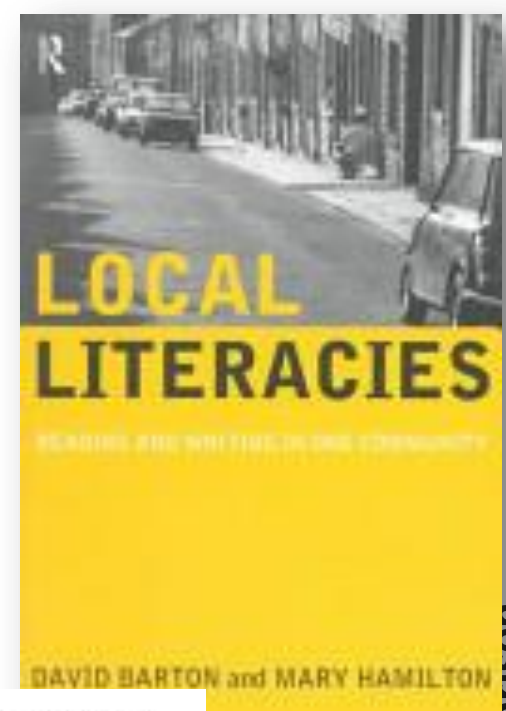
& Lancaster University Research Group



Literacy is primarily something people do; it is an activity, located in the space between thought and text. Literacy does not just reside in people's heads as a set of skills to be learned, and it does not just reside on paper, captured as texts to be analysed. Like all human activity, literacy is essentially social, and it is located in the interaction between people. This book is a study of what people do with literacy: of the social activities, of the thoughts and meanings behind the activities, and of the texts utilised in such activities. It is about how a particular group of people use reading and writing in their day-to-day lives. Of necessity, the book is particular; it sets out from individual people's lives and particular literacy events at a certain point in history. At the same time, it is also about the general nature of literacy and about the state of literacy in the world at the end of the twentieth century. This book explores contemporary uses and meanings of literacy in everyday life and the ways in which these are changing. It is based

literacy...research

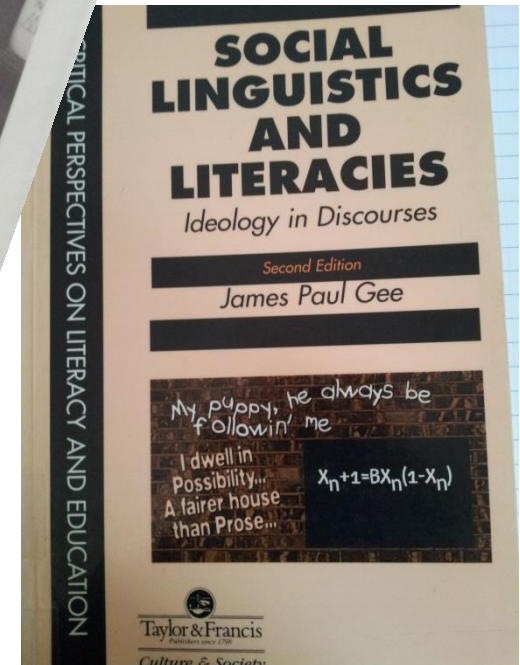
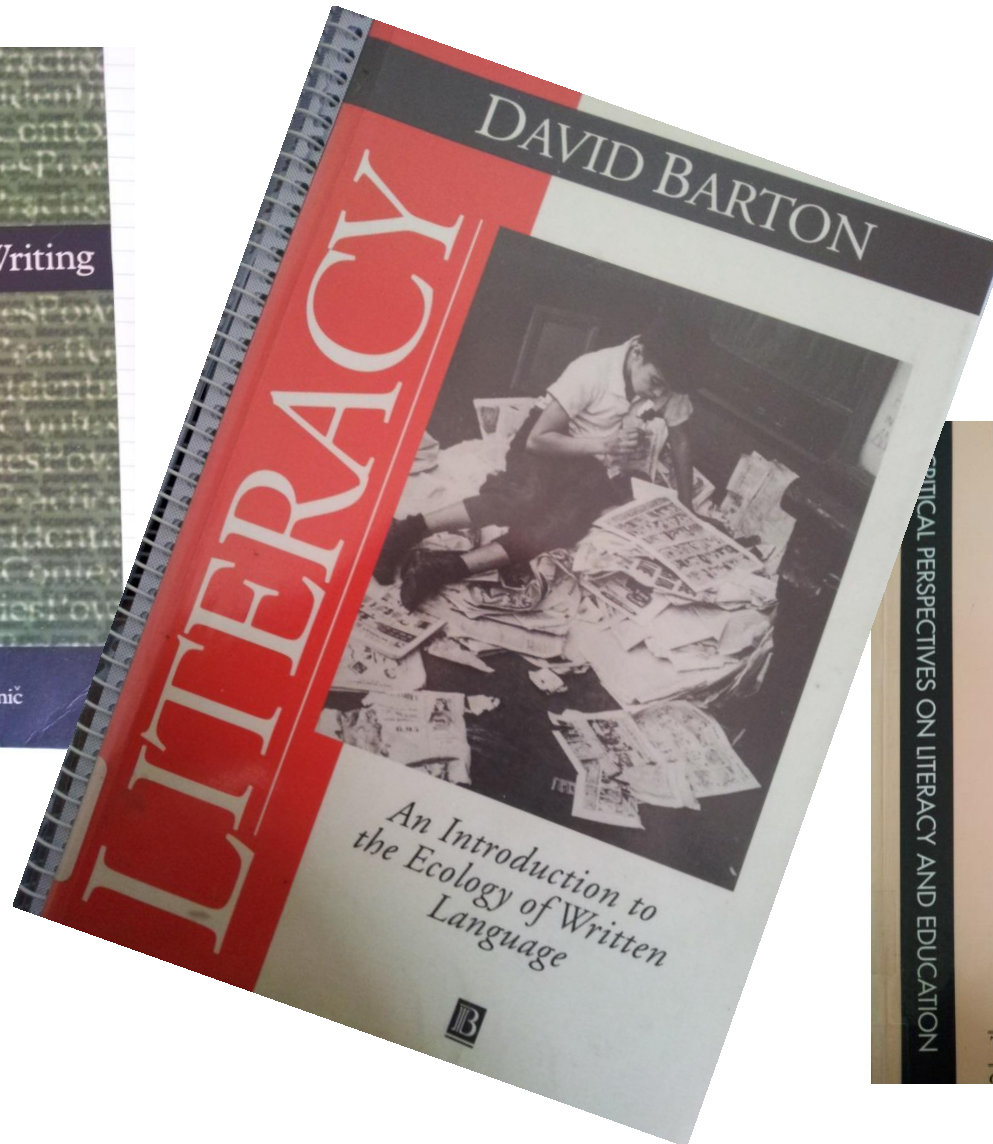
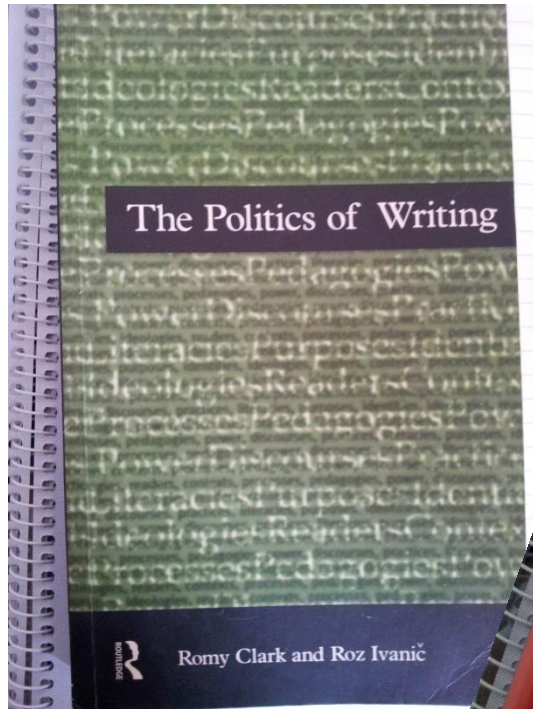
people...people's lives



This book is a study of the uses of reading and writing in Lancaster, England in the 1990s. In writing this book we have three overlapping aims. Our first aim is to offer a detailed, specific description of literacy practices in one local community at one point in time. Secondly, the book makes a contribution to the theoretical understanding of literacy by linking literacy to a more general understanding of social practices and how people make sense of their lives through their everyday practices. The account that results from this project is often at odds with the public image of literacy to be found in the media and much current policy discourse. The book draws attention to vernacular literacies which are often hidden literacies, devalued and overlooked. In this way, it contributes to our final aim, which is to offer an alternative public discourse which foregrounds the role of literacy as a communal resource contributing to the quality of local life.

literacy...research

people...people's lives...everyday life

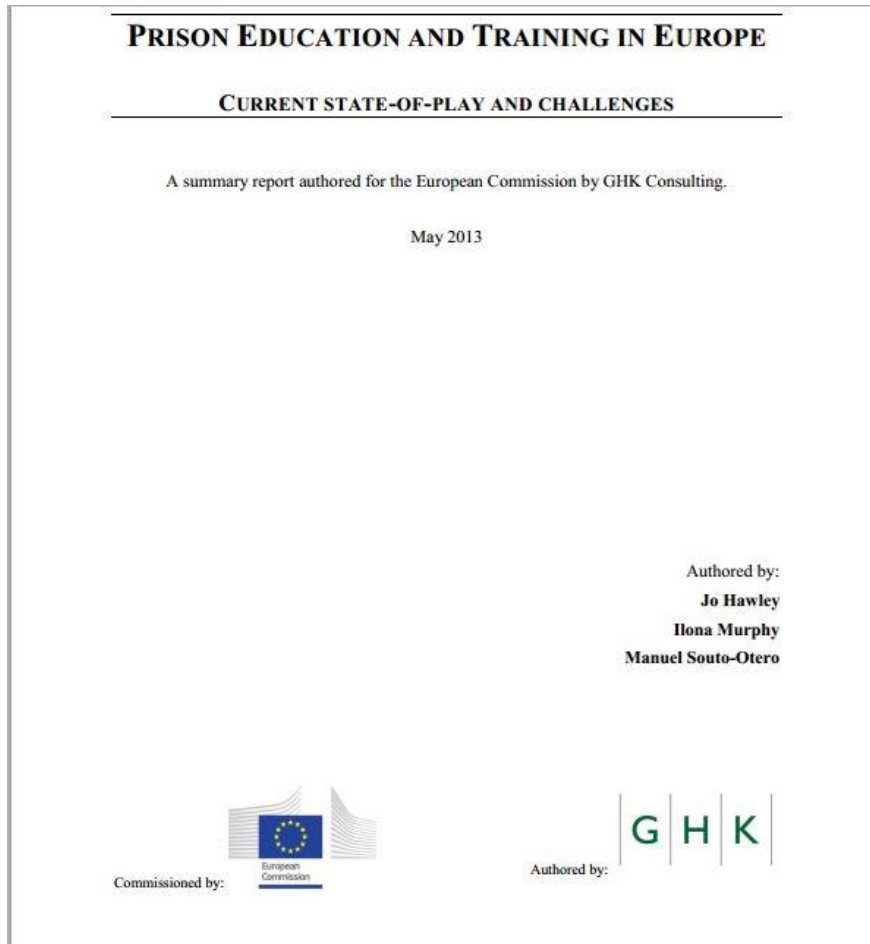


literacy education in prison

literacy...research

what definitions of literacy?

reading, writing, numeracy...basic skills



literacy...public & private discourses

whose perspective? what definitions of literacy?



literacy...policy

what definitions of literacy?



EDUCATION & TRAINING
LITERACY

European Commission > Education & training > Literacy > Literacy and the European Union > EU literacy policies

HOME A,B,C OF LITERACY LITERACY AND THE EU RESOURCES

EU literacy policies

- [Europe 2020](#)
- [Education and Training 2020](#)
- [Literacy and school policy](#)
- [Literacy and adult education](#)

Europe 2020

The 'Europe 2020' strategy, which is the EU's strategic blueprint for the decade to 2020, seeks to promote smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. One of the focuses of Europe 2020's 'smart growth' priority is education, including literacy, while the 'inclusive' growth priority focuses on promoting high employment and reducing social exclusion, both of which are affected by literacy.

There are seven Europe 2020 [flagship initiatives](#). Better literacy is a key enabler for reaching the goals of the flagship initiatives. One of these, [Youth on the Move](#), seeks, among other things, to help better equip young people for the job market – which includes boosting the literacy of the less skilled – and to improve their education and training levels. The [Agenda for new skills and jobs](#) includes literacy as an important part of the right mix of skills needed for success in the future labour market. The [Digital Agenda for Europe](#) recognises the role of digital literacy for empowerment and participation in the digital era and the [European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion](#) proposes the development of innovative education for deprived communities to help lift them out of poverty and social exclusion.

Education and Training 2020

Commissioner Vassiliou's Europe Loves Reading campaign

HLG Final Report

> Download the Report

Latest Highlights

> [Presentation HLG Literacy report at European Parliament, 22nd January 2013](#)

literacy...policy

what definitions of literacy? mainly basic skills

EUROPE 2020....STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT FOR DECADE TO 2020

...seeks to promote smart, sustainable and inclusive growth

....one of the focuses of Europe 2020's 'smart growth' priority is education, including literacy, while the 'inclusive' growth priority focuses on promoting high employment and reducing social exclusion, both of which are affected by literacy

literacy...policy

what definitions of literacy? mainly basic skills

EUROPE 2020....STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT FOR DECADE TO 2020

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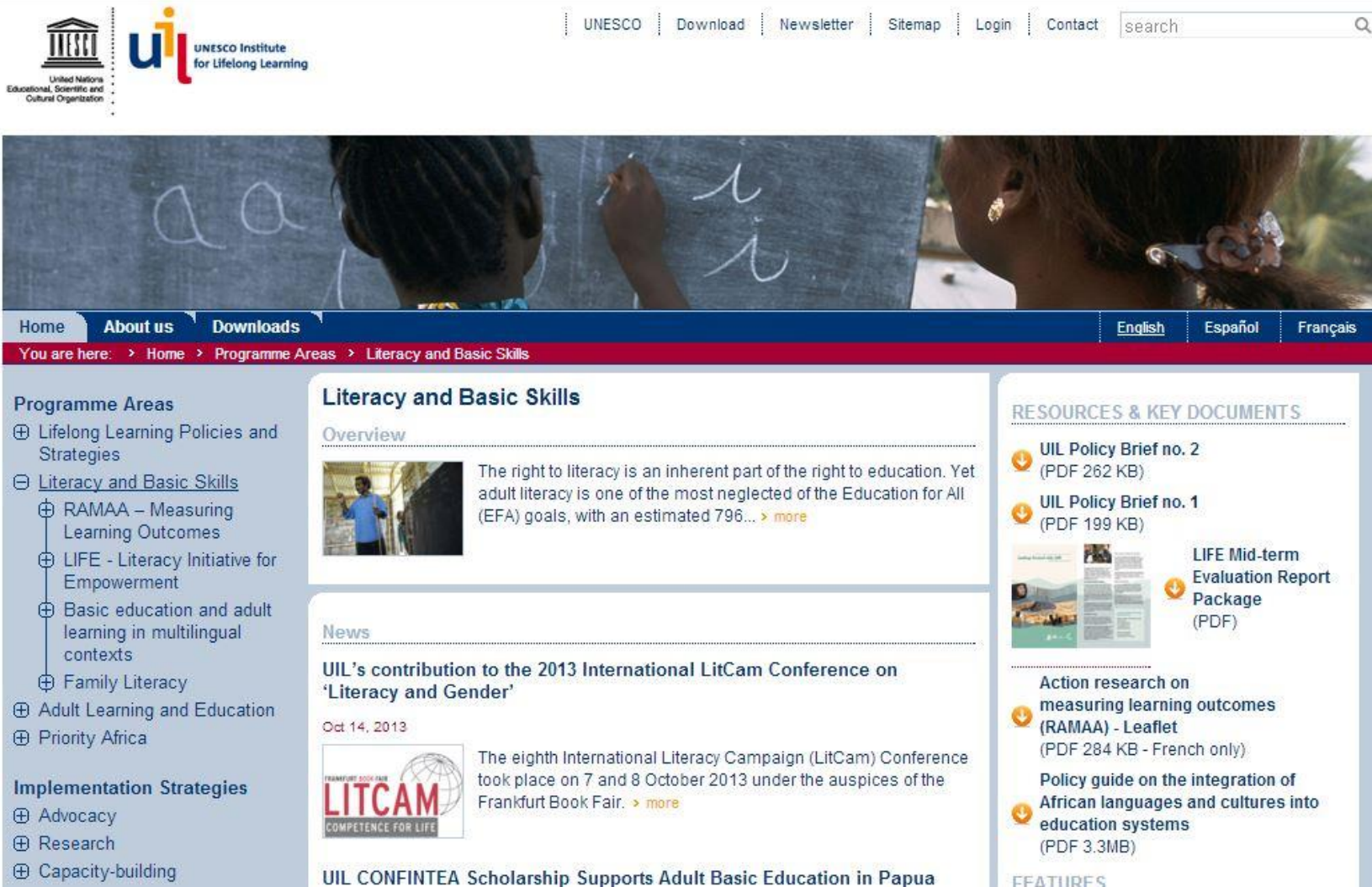
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'European platform against poverty and social exclusion' proposes the development of innovative education for deprived communities to help lift them out of poverty and social exclusion

literacy...policy

what definitions of literacy?



The screenshot shows the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for UNESCO, Download, Newsletter, Sitemap, Login, and Contact, along with a search box. Below this is a banner image of children writing on a chalkboard. The main navigation menu includes Home, About us, Downloads, English, Español, and Français. A breadcrumb trail indicates the current location: Home > Programme Areas > Literacy and Basic Skills.

Programme Areas


- ⊕ Lifelong Learning Policies and Strategies
- ⊖ **Literacy and Basic Skills**
 - ⊕ RAMAA – Measuring Learning Outcomes
 - ⊕ LIFE - Literacy Initiative for Empowerment
 - ⊕ Basic education and adult learning in multilingual contexts
 - ⊕ Family Literacy
 - ⊕ Adult Learning and Education
 - ⊕ Priority Africa

Implementation Strategies

- ⊕ Advocacy
- ⊕ Research
- ⊕ Capacity-building

Literacy and Basic Skills


Overview

 The right to literacy is an inherent part of the right to education. Yet adult literacy is one of the most neglected of the Education for All (EFA) goals, with an estimated 796... [> more](#)

News

UIL's contribution to the 2013 International LitCam Conference on 'Literacy and Gender'

Oct 14, 2013

 The eighth International Literacy Campaign (LitCam) Conference took place on 7 and 8 October 2013 under the auspices of the Frankfurt Book Fair. [> more](#)

UIL CONFITEA Scholarship Supports Adult Basic Education in Papua

RESOURCES & KEY DOCUMENTS

- ⊖ **UIL Policy Brief no. 2** (PDF 262 KB)
- ⊖ **UIL Policy Brief no. 1** (PDF 199 KB)
- ⊖ **LIFE Mid-term Evaluation Report Package** (PDF)
- ⊖ **Action research on measuring learning outcomes (RAMAA) - Leaflet** (PDF 284 KB - French only)
- ⊖ **Policy guide on the integration of African languages and cultures into education systems** (PDF 3.3MB)

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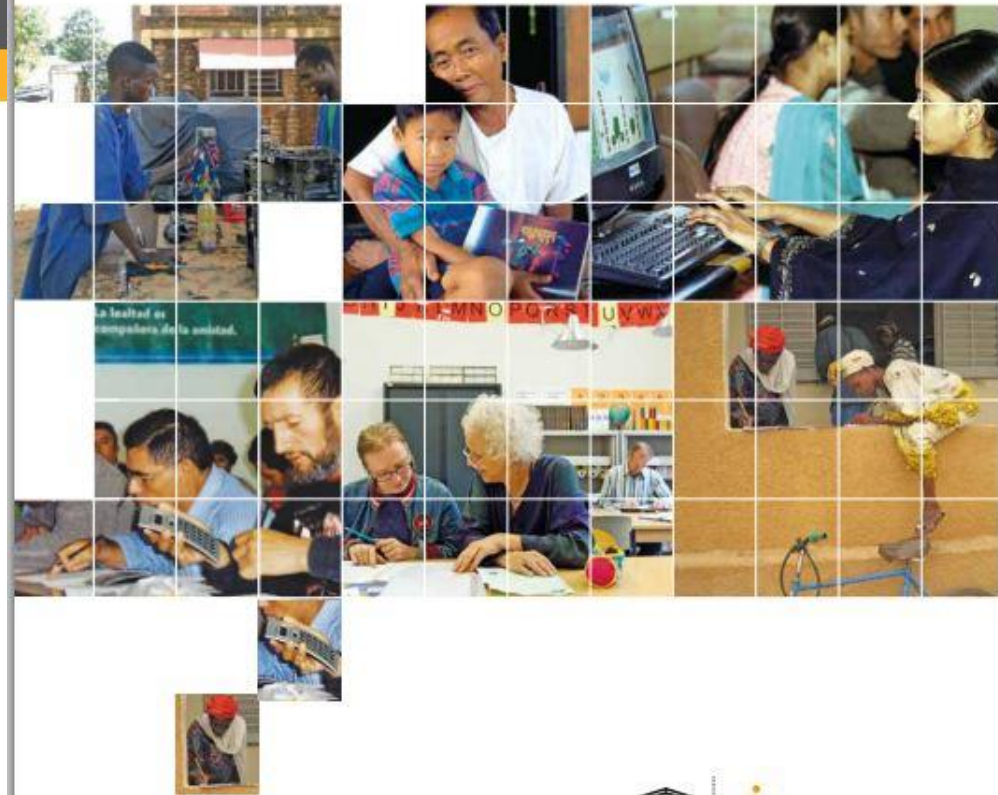
literacy...policy

what definitions of literacy?

UIS INFORMATION PAPER

JUNE 2013

ADULT AND YOUTH LITERACY National, regional and global trends, 1985-2015



literacy...public & private discourses

whose perspective? what definitions of literacy?



literacy...policy

what definitions of literacy? 'fight against Prisonisation'

' It is a silent battle, not with a recognisable enemy, but with our minds. To win we have to pamper our minds, cater for them, bribe them, keep them occupied or lose them. If you lose your minds, we lose ourselves and the battle. It is a battle I will not lose.'

Inmate serving long sentence, personal correspondence

in Anita Wilson, 2000

literacy

equality
gender
social
economic
empowerment
development
health
LITERACY
cultural

inclusion