

Talking about books

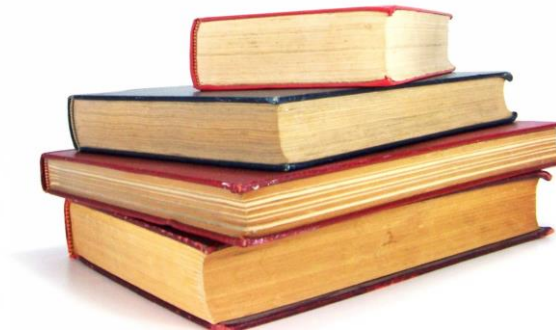


Image 1

Task 1:

Read [this short summary](#) of a book by Lorenza Antonucci entitled *Student lives in crisis: deepening inequality in times of austerity*. Do you think you would find this book interesting? You will find some quotes from reviews of the book below the summary.

Below are some adjectives and expressions that are often used to talk about academic texts. Which ones do you think are positive, and which ones negative? Can you and your partner add any more expressions to the list?

Timely

Eye-opening

Poorly reasoned

An important contribution

Incisive

Penetrating

Derivative

Insightful

Thorough

Unconvincing
Heavy-handed
Uninspired
Thoughtful

Task 2:

According to the summary, the main thesis of the book is that “university participation exacerbates rather than ameliorates inequalities among young people from different social backgrounds.” What do you understand this to mean? Why do you think it might be true?

Follow-up activity:

Share a link with your partner (Amazon, a publishing house website...) to a recent book in your field that you think is important. Summarise the book’s main theses, say why it is important and give your opinion on it.

Sources

- Image 1 <http://www.publicdomainpictures.net/view-image.php?image=68838&picture=pile-of-books>
- Text 1 <http://www.press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/distributed/S/bo25066276.html>