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**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

Reading makes sense only when it serves as an active process that makes one's mind assimilate information and perceptions. This happens through socio-cultural constructions that shape minds. The layers of consciousness and identities that are already present in someone get reflected in what s/he reads. Therefore, reading can be considered a heavily demanding exercise if proper amounts of comprehension is aimed at as its objective. No one blindly accepts whatever is written, just because they are read with a particular aim. The acceptance of new ideas or information takes place only if the reader is sufficiently convinced of them. This calls for critical thinking, which leads to a judicial analysis and synthesis of what is being read with reference to what the mind has already acquired. For anyone who approaches reading seriously, it is this critical thinking aspect that makes it a pleasurable act. The intensity of critical thinking may vary from person to person and from one reading material to the other, but its presence is crucial to the exercise. Writing emerges as a natural response to reading and critical thinking. All readers may not let themselves be led by what they read, but all those who write either respond to, or take off from, what they have read.