I am majoring in **Adventure Education** and as I looked through *Language A Reader for Writers* by Gita DasBender. I have chosen the following readings that I feel would be useful in the **Adventure Education** major. These are the following.

Chapter 1 – *What Is Language For?*

A)  *How Does Our Language Shape the Way We Think?*

by [Lera Boroditsky](#) (pages 2 -12)

B)  *Language and Thought*

by [Susanne Languor](#) (pages 12 – 18)
C) **Body Language** – In *Adventure Education* you will often times have to demonstrate how to perform a certain task and this is done through the use of the gestural mode. Sometimes, one may not be able to hear or understand what you are saying so gestures are used to get the point across.

by **Arika Okrent** (pages 18 – 27)

Chapter 2 – *Multilingualism*

A) **Which is The Best Language To Learn** – After completing my degree in *Adventure Education* I would like to obtain a job that I will get to travel a lot to various countries and interact with other cultures. During these travels I will encounter many different languages and dialects.

by **Robert Lane Greene** (pages 40 – 45)

B) **Experience: I Can Speak 50 Languages** – Throughout my travels I will encounter various languages. It may be impractical to try and learn every language I might encounter during my travels. However, it would be beneficial to learn key terms and phrases that will benefit you the most.

by **Alexander Argues** (pages 49 – 52)

Chapter 3 – *Language & Writing*

A) **Writing for An Audience**
B) *The Art of The Police Report* – When taking groups out into the wild there are various forms that need to be completed. These need to be completed in certain manner in order to protect you if something should go wrong.

C) *We Are All Writers Now*

by **Ellen Colette** (pages 86 – 92)

Chapter 4 – *Language & Correctness*

A) *I Won’t Hire People Who Use Poor Grammar. Here’s Why* – Word choice is important when trying to get your point across to your intended audience and with this comes the use of proper grammar.

by **Kyle Wiens** (pages 102 – 105)

B) *Your Bad Grammar at Work: What’s The Problem?*

by **Alison Griswold** (pages 108 – 112)

Chapter 5 – *Language & Gender*

A) *Why Being a Jerk at Work Pays*

by **Amy Reiter** (pages 141 – 145)

Chapter 7 – *Language & Politics*

A) *Are You a Mac or a Mac User? How The Language of Identity Persuades*
Inquiry Defined

Inquiry – The process of obtaining knowledge through a question(s) and/or observation(s) that is relevant to the discourse.

I guess, some questions I have for the above definition are
the following.

- As long as the question is relevant to the discourse. Is it possible to ask a bad question?
- Isn’t a question and/or observation that is not relevant to the discourse, still a inquiry?

![The Inquiry Learning Community Diagram]

I found this chart doing a Google search for images that dealt with inquiry. I, believe this gives a great explanation of what it means to inquire.

In the **Adventure Education** Major we make inquiries all the time. Just today in my tope rope climbing class. I asked myself what is the best and safest way to sit up the top rope anchor that we were going to climb. I observed my surroundings such as the trees and nearby rocks. Then came up with a plan to develop my anchor system. This is form of inquiry. I had the questions in my head and observed my surroundings and then came up with a plan.
Cohort Reflection

As we came together one last time. I reflect on what we have accomplished as a group. It has been really helpful working together and sharing ideas. Candra was a huge help for a lot of us within the group. This is due to the fact that she is very knowledgeable when it comes to making blogs. So, it was nice to have somebody around who could help the others of us, as we learned how to navigate our blog. I am going to miss meeting with these individuals. However, I am looking forward to meeting with my other scholars within the class and learning new ideas from them.

http://blogs.fortlewis.edu/crlowery/

http://blogs.fortlewis.edu/JASPINELLI/

http://blogs.fortlewis.edu/JTHENDERSON/

http://blogs.fortlewis.edu/SPTOMKINS/
This is poster I have hanging in my apartment on campus it is titled “The DJ” and is a print of a piece done by the artist Justin Bua. In it you can see all of the five elements that go into effective communication. Justin has used the following in his art.

VISUAL MODE // AURAL MODE // SPATIAL MODE

GESTURAL MODE // LINGUISTIC MODE

DJ set this morning...
This morning before class I was going through some new tracks I just downloaded in Traktor. Let's take a look at what elements of communication they have used in the interface.

The Five Modes of Communication

Visual Mode – This is the whole appearance of the interface.

Gestural Mode – This is not used in the interface.

Spatial Mode – This is how the interface is set up. Where the track decks are, etc.

Linguistic Mode – This is the text that is used in the interface. Such as the track names, the artist, remix, record label, etc.

Aural Mode – This is music that is loaded into the decks and that sweet sound that pumps out of my speakers.

Open Your Eyes & Look Around

As, I wondered around campus. I noticed that basically everything you look at contains at least some of the five modes that are used in effective communication.
I made my way over to post office and checked my mail. Which, I had not checked in a few days and noticed that I had recently received a CD I ordered from Amazon. Now, I am really looking forward to using some of the tracks in my set this weekend on the radio.

As, I looked the over the cover. I have noticed that they have used four of the five modes that are used in effective communication. These, are Visual, Gestural, Spatial, and Linguistic Modes. However, since it is a CD you could say, that they have really used all five modes to get their message across. The lost mode being the Aural.

**The Five Modes of Communication**

- **Visual Mode** – This is everything you see on the cover. How the picture appears to be taken around dusk, the color of Solomun’s shirt, the cityscape in the background. This was all done for a reason.
• **Gestural Mode** – This is how Solomun is posed in the photograph. His arms crossed facing the camera. Also, his facial expressions would be part of the gestural mode.

• **Spatial Mode** – This is how the text is organized and the placement of Solomun in the foreground with the cityscape in the background. With Solomun in the foreground again they are stating he is the key element to the CD.

• **Linguistic Mode** – This is the text that is used on the cover of the CD. It is clean, **bold**, and ALL CAPS. This makes it easy to read and gives it a nice clean look. In small print at the bottom right you have the record label which is Global Underground. Above that you have the DJ’s name Solomun in the largest print on of the cover. This shows that artist (DJ) is the most important element of the CD and not the record label that but it out. Above the artist’s name you have #GU40 Hamburg. This means that this is the 40 CD in this series released by the record label Global Underground and the mix was recorded in Hamburg, Germany.

• **Aural Mode** – This would be the mix on the CD and the tracks that he has chosen to use to take you on a journey through sound.

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**What I took from "So What?"**
Our professor instructed as to spend 2 hours and 36 minutes reading the book *“So What?”: The Writer’s Argument* written by Kurt Schick & Laura Schubert. I felt the time that was given for the task wasn’t enough time to comprehend the material that I was reading. However, after initially reading the book my impression was that it was well written and the authors but a lot of thought into what makes a great writer. They, really seam to know what they were taking about and this was demonstrated in their writing. They presented their claims and then used evidence to back them up. This, is something that a writer needs to take into consideration when writing their own papers. If, you are unable to back up your claims. How are you going to convince your audience that you know what you are talking about. Although, I did not comprehend much in the first reading of the text. I feel like their was a lot of useful information within the book. I am looking forward to diving deeper into the text and using some of information the authors provide to make my writing more powerful.
Check this video out...

This afternoon when I was procrastinating I came across this video that one of freinds posted on Facebook. Since, we both DJ he thought I would find it humorous. I was wondering if you identify the five multimodal elements in this video?

They are the following: **Visual // Aural // Spatial // Gestural // Linguistic**

What I have learned after
After reading chapter one “What Are Multimodal Projects?” in *Writer/Designer: A guide to making multimodal projects*. I have learned the concepts that go into the making of a multimodal project. When making a multimodal project one needs to take into account who they are trying to convey their message to and what is the message they would like to convey. When trying to get your message across one will use the five modes of communication. These are linguistic, visual, aural, gestural, and spatial.

**Linguistic** – refers to the language that is used. This may be spoken or written. However, one needs to take into account their word choice and how they are going to organization these words in order to to their message across.

**Visual** – refers to anything that your audience will see. This includes the use of color, the style and layout of the your text and images. Also, the size of the font or the size of the image one uses plays a part.

**Aural** – refers to the sound, is there any. Do you need to add some? This can be the use of music, sound effects, other sounds, or just silence. If, you use sounds use something that tries to draw out the response you want from your audience.

**Spatial** – refers to physical arrangement. This is how you place the text or images. If, you have links to other websites are they placed where they are easy to find.

**Gestural** – refers to the way of movement. These may be ones facial expressions, hand gestures, or body language. When using these make sure they convey what you are trying to say.
These are the Modes that go into the making of a Multimodal project. However, you might not use all them. But, is a good idea to get comfortable using them.