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The Purpose

The purpose of English 1180 is to teach students how to connect their own insights to the insights established experts, and by building background knowledge of education and social class. This is accomplished by the “they said/I say” model. The connection of “I” and “they” produces a “we say” paper where they use existing knowledge but also new discoveries to write a new paper. These writing strategies are practiced through the assignment by using the three step method to summarize Anyon’s work, and then test her claims by applying them to our own experience. Finally, we use the connection between the "I" and the "we" to make a more general statement about the nature of education in America.

The Problem

The main problem with the current relationship between social class and education is that advantaged social groups often times are taught different learning skills that tailor their education to more advanced concepts, and are given other advantages as well. Other problems include money, a poor outlook on education by officials, and standardized education overall. Is

education now more about making money than actual learning? Is there much interest in changing education for the better? What matters more to college, money or education? Do colleges want to make themselves more like a business or with an emphasis on learning? Why is critical pedagogy less supported in American education? Is critical pedagogy more common in upper class schools? How are education reformers using standardized learning to control public education? Why does money and class make a difference in the education students get; who benefits?