

Reflection essay #1 — Reading education

- Reading: Hanford (2018), "Hard Words: Why aren't kids being taught to read?"
- For this reflection essay, address the following questions:
 - How does Hanford define the term *phonics*?
 - Does Hanford argue *for* or *against* the use of phonics in teaching reading? Choose *two* of the arguments or pieces of evidence that she presents in support of her position, and briefly summarize them, using your own words.
 - Reflect on your own experience learning to read (English), or the experience of children you have observed learning to read. Were aspects of phonics-based instruction used? If yes, how did you or the children in question feel about them? If you can't remember any phonics-based reading instruction, what do you remember (or what have you observed) about early reading education, and does it fall into any of the categories that Hanford discusses?
 - Overall, did your experience (or what you have observed) about early reading education fall in line with the argument that Hanford is making in her article, or does it provide an alternative perspective?