

speaker The person or group who creates a text. This might be a politician who delivers a speech, a commentator who writes an article, an artist who draws a political cartoon, or even a company that commissions an advertisement.

*In his Farewell Address, the speaker is not just Lou Gehrig, but baseball hero and ALS victim Lou Gehrig, a common man who is modest and thankful for the opportunities he's had.*

subject The topic of a text. What the text is about.

*Lou Gehrig's subject in his speech is his illness, but it is also a catalog of all the lucky breaks that preceded his diagnosis.*

text While this term generally means the written word, in the humanities it has come to mean any cultural product that can be "read"—meaning not just consumed and comprehended, but investigated. This includes fiction, nonfiction, poetry, political cartoons, fine art, photography, performances, fashion, cultural trends, and much more.