They Say/I Say
In-Class Writing Exercise

You will have 35 minutes to complete the following exercises.

1. Visit the Rotten Tomatoes website and find a movie review for a film that you know well. (5 minutes)
2. Read the review, and, in a separate MS Word document, make a list of the thesis and the main supporting arguments that the author makes about the film. (It is acceptable to copy and paste.) (5 minutes)
3. Review the “They Say/I Say” handout. Consider to what extent you agree with that main claim and with the supporting arguments. (5 minutes)
4. Draft a thesis using the “They Say/I Say” method, clearly outlining the argument you will be using to springboard your argument and providing a focused response to that argument. (5 minutes)
5. Write a short (minimum two-paragraph) response to that author using the “They Say/I Say” technique, strong details, “showing,” counterargument, and any of the other techniques we have studied. (15 minutes)
6. We will post our writing exercises to the Insite discussion board.