

RHETORICAL ANALYSIS OUTLINE

I. Introduction

- A. Grabber
- B. Transition from grabber
- C. Speaker, occasion, audience, purpose, subject

In _____ (title/genre of the piece) by
_____ (speaker with credentials) he/she
_____ (purpose verb) _____
_____ (subject).

D. Thesis

_____ (speaker) uses

(rhetorical term) and _____ (rhetorical term) to
create a _____ (tone word) tone to
_____ (subject).

Example Introduction

The Civil War was considered to be one of the most divisive times in United States History. As the war was coming to a close, the United States was looking to its leader, President Lincoln, for help in healing the nation. In his Second Inaugural Address, President Lincoln seeks to unite a divided nation after the Civil War. The President uses personification and allusions to religion to create a firm tone to unify a country torn apart by war.

II. Main Body Paragraph 1

- A. Topic Sentence - The first sentence identifies which section of the text you are discussing and the main idea of that section.

_____ (Writer's last name)
_____ (transition word) his/her
_____ (type of text) by
_____ (strong verb) that

_____ (main idea of this section of the text).

- B. SS +Evidence - speaker and situation + example of rhetorical device from text
- C. Significance - Explain your evidence (at least 2 sentences)
- How do these devices or strategies work to make the speech more effective?
 - What effect do these devices or strategies have on the audience?
 - How do the devices or strategies affect the tone?
 - ANALYZE, ANALYZE, ANALYZE

Example Body Paragraph

Lincoln begins his address by describing the divisive nature of the country before and during the Civil War. At the beginning of the speech, when he establishes how the country turned against itself, President Lincoln declares, " Both parties deprecated war, but one of them would make war rather than let the nation survive, and the other would accept war rather than let it perish, and the war came." Lincoln's choices in personifying the country as a wounded soldier with words like "survive" and "perish" emphasize the delicate state of the country at that time. almost as if patient teetering on the brink of survival or death. Through the use of personification showing how the country was on the brink of living or dying, Lincoln hopes to bring the north and the south together to salvage the wounded soldier, the United States.

III. Main Body Paragraph 2

- B. Topic Sentence - This sentence should transition from first body paragraph into your next rhetorical device.

_____ (transition

statement)_____ (Writer's last name)

_____ (strong verb)

_____ (main idea of this section of the text).

- B. SS +Evidence - speaker and situation + example of rhetorical device from text
- C. Significance - Explain your evidence (at least 2 sentences)
- How do these devices or strategies work to make the text more effective?
 - What effect do these devices or strategies have on the audience?
 - How do the devices or strategies affect the tone?
 - ANALYZE, ANALYZE, ANALYZE

Example Body Paragraph

Later in the speech, Lincoln continues to elaborate on the idea that the United States should not look to the past but to the future. As Lincoln discusses his hopes for healing the nation after the Civil War, he declares "both read the same Bible and pray to the same God." He elaborates using allusions to, and quotes from, the Bible, such as, "The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether" and "Woe unto the word because of offenses." These

religious allusions link the North and the South together and remind the two sides of their shared values and spiritual goals, rather than deep divisions. Through the use of religion, Lincoln hopes to remind the country that despite the differences in ideology regarding slavery, they are still a nation that is more alike than different in their beliefs.

IV. Conclusion

- A. Restate thesis
- B. Leave the reader with a lasting impression and close on a powerful note
 - No cheerleading!!! (do not say the speaker does a great job at...)
 - Do not use words “in conclusion” or “to conclude”
 - Leave it at about three sentences

Example Conclusion

With his use of personification and religious allusion, President Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address hopes to unify the country at one of its darkest times. His brief speech creates a firm tone in hopes that he can establish his authority and rebuild the nation. Through his words, Lincoln would like the nation to look to its reunited future and not its divisive past.

Rhetorical Analysis Guidelines

- Typed, 12 point font, standard MLA format
- Write about speech in present tense
 - Example: Lincoln says - **YES**
Lincoln said - **NO**
- Turned into Turnitin.com by Sunday night 12:00 a.m.
- Bring a hard copy to class
- Use 3-part source integration
- Follow outline