

Student A

Language Arts Class

Mrs. Teach

2 February 2011

### Music Piracy is Theft

Throughout history, music spread through common experiences among people of different cultures. In today's technologically advanced society, however, people spread music online, sometimes without an artist's permission. This can lead to many problems, and music companies are now cracking down on this practice. Sharing music online without permission is essentially theft.

Sharing music online prevents recording companies from making money from their efforts. They say that online file sharing has resulted in a "dramatic drop in profits and sales" over the past 10 years (Flaherty). People who find music for free online are not paying for CDs or every MP3 download. To truly understand the impact of music piracy on creator, one must understand how many people are involved the recording process. For the sale of each album, profits must be shared between all parties: musicians, sound engineers, music producers, record labels, managers, advertisers, and the company selling the product. Thus, one renegade digital pirate can negatively affect "the profit-margins of a diverse array of contributors" (Stansen 47). Many people believe sharing music only affects the recording artist, but the reality is that sharing hurts business for all companies involved. Therefore, the sharing of music files is just as damaging as stealing a CD from Target.

There are many people who don't see the harm in sharing music files online and even think they have the right to do it. One online blogger states that he originally paid for an entire CD and that he "should be able to do with the material whatever [he] wants" ("My Music, My Right"). While this individual may have legally paid for the music, he does not have the right to provide it to the world at no cost. Most music is copyrighted, which by definition means that the material is "protected for the life time of the author or creator and for a period of 50 years" ("Copyright"). Because the material is protected, no one can legally hand out free copies without permission, which means individuals like the aforementioned blogger are thieves.

Although we do not spread today's music the same way we did historically, there's no doubt that people around the world love to share music. However, internet piracy, if not contained, could prevent musicians from wanting to continue producing albums for fear of theft. Therefore, if people want to continue listening to their favorite artists, they need to buy their music so that artists will make enough profit to continue their music careers.

**Read each question below and answer on a separate sheet of paper.**

1. Read the argumentative essay.
2. What is the purpose of the essay?
3. What is the author’s main claim?
4. What do you notice about the essay? Write at least three specific observations per paragraph of the essay: introduction, body paragraph 1, body paragraph 2, conclusion.
5. What is the purpose of body paragraph 1? (What kind of paragraph is it?) How do you know?
6. What is the purpose of body paragraph 2? (What kind of paragraph is it?) How do you know?

**Backwards map out the essay by creating a graphic organizer like the one below (and filling it in).**

**Introduction**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Attention Getter</b></p> <p>Throughout history, music spread through common experiences among people of different cultures.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Introduction of Topic</b></p> <p>In today’s technologically advanced society, however, people spread music online, sometimes without an artist’s permission. This can lead to many problems, and music companies are now cracking down on this practice.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thesis (Main Claim)</b></p> <p>Sharing music online without permission is essentially theft.</p>
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**Body Paragraph 1**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Claim</b></p> <p>Sharing music online prevents recording companies from making money for their efforts.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Evidence Used to Support Claim</b></p> <p>They say that online file sharing has resulted in a “dramatic drop in profits and sales” over the past 10 years (Flaherty). People who find music for free online are not paying for CDs or every MP3 download. To truly understand the impact of music piracy on creator, one must understand how many people are involved the recording process. For the sale of each album, profits must be shared between all parties: musicians, sound engineers, music producers, record labels, managers, advertisers, and the company selling the product. Thus, one renegade digital pirate can negatively affect “the profit-margins of a diverse array of contributors” (Stansen 47). Many people believe sharing music only affects the recording artist, but the reality is that sharing hurts business for all companies involved. Therefore, the sharing of music files is just as damaging as stealing a CD from Target.</p>
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**Body Paragraph 2**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Opposing Claim (what do others think?)</b></p> <p>There are many people who don’t see the harm in sharing music files online and even think they have the right to do it.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Evidence of Opposing Claim</b></p> <p>One online blogger states that he originally paid for an entire CD and that he “should be able to do with the material whatever [he] wants” (“My Music, My Right”).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Author’s Counterclaim</b></p> <p>While this individual may have legally paid for the music, he does not have the right to provide it to the world at no cost. Most music is copyrighted, which by definition means that the material is “protected for the life time of the author or creator and for a period of 50 years” (“Copyright”). Because the material is protected, no one can legally hand out free copies without permission, which means individuals like the aforementioned blogger are thieves.</p>
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**Conclusion**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Relation to Attention Getter</b></p> <p>Although we do not spread today’s music the same way we did historically, there’s no doubt that people around the world love to share music.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Relation to Thesis</b></p> <p>However, internet piracy, if not contained, could prevent musicians from wanting to continue producing albums for fear of theft.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Final Strong Comment (What does the author explain she wants?)</b></p> <p>Therefore, if people want to continue listening to their favorite artists, they need to buy their music so that artists will make enough profit to continue their music careers.</p>
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## New Terms from Prezi

**Ethos, Pathos and Logos are modes of persuasion used to convince audiences. They are also referred to as the three artistic proofs (Aristotle coined the terms), and are all represented by Greek words.**

**Ethos** or the ethical appeal, means to convince an audience of the author's credibility or character.

An author would use ethos to show to his audience that he is a credible source and is worth listening to. Ethos is the Greek word for "character." The word "ethic" is derived from ethos.

**Pathos** or the emotional appeal, means to persuade an audience by appealing to their emotions.

Authors use pathos to invoke sympathy from an audience; to make the audience feel what the author wants them to feel. A common use of pathos would be to draw pity from an audience. Another use of pathos would be to inspire anger from an audience; perhaps in order to prompt action. Pathos is the Greek word for both "suffering" and "experience." The words empathy and pathetic are derived from pathos.

**Logos** or the appeal to logic, means to convince an audience by use of logic or reason.

To use logos would be to cite facts and statistics, historical and literal analogies, and citing certain authorities on a subject. Logos is the Greek word for "word," however the true definition goes beyond that, and can be most closely described as "the word or that by which the inward thought is expressed, Lat. oratio; and, the inward thought itself, Lat. Ratio. (1) The word "logic" is derived from logos.

## **Student Notes from Prezi**

### The Argumentative Essay

-Writing that tries to convince a reader to do something or what to believe about a certain topic.

### Before you start writing

- 1) Know your audience
- 2) Pick a side
- 3) Do your research
- 4) Make a plan, and then WRITE!

### Introduction:

- GRAB the reader's attention
- The author's position is clearly stated in a these statement

A thesis statement is one sentence at the end of your introduction that states your opinion.

Body: Where the argument is explained

### Counterargument:

-You'll need to tell your reader what the counter argument is and prove why it should not matter.

### Conclusion:

- Summarize your main point
- Wrap up the writing and give the reader something to think about