

Rhetorical Analysis Outline

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

I. Introduction

A. *Thesis* (1-2 sentence(s) only—called the bullet thesis): title of essay, author, purpose, meaning, and HOW the author accomplishes it (rhetorical devices)

- ❖ In _____ (title/genre of the piece), _____ (author)
_____ (purpose verb)
_____ (meaning of work)
_____ (rhetorical strategies).

- ❖ *Example: In President Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address, the president seeks to unite a divided, yet largely Christian nation after the Civil War by personifying the nation as a wounded soldier and by making various religious appeals through a neutral, yet firm tone in an occasion that called for a rather brief although commanding speech.*

II. Main Body Paragraph Topic #1: _____

(Include rhetorical device or strategy by chronology. Identify—what is the meaning or purpose of the essay? What rhetorical devices did the author use to achieve this? What is the tone?)

- ❖ *Please remember to integrate your quotes well: blend the author's words with your own, so it reads smoothly without the quotation marks.*
- ❖ *You do not need to quote paragraph numbers, line numbers, the author, or any citation information—you've already established this info. in your intro paragraph*

1. *Evidence from the text* (Find—where in the essay can you find evidence to support your convictions? Please write your quotes or specific examples here):

- Explanation of the evidence (Explain—How do these devices/ strategies work to make the text more effective? Why are the devices/ strategies effective? Analyze, analyze, analyze!!!)

2. *Evidence from the text:* _____

- Explanation of the evidence:

3. *Evidence from the text:* _____

- Explanation of the evidence:

III. Main Body Paragraph Topic #2: _____

(Include rhetorical device or strategy by chronology. Identify—what is the meaning or purpose of the essay? What rhetorical devices did the author use to achieve this? What is the tone?)

1. *Evidence from the text* (find—where in the essay can you find evidence to support your convictions? Please write your quotes or specific examples here):

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- Explanation of the evidence (Explain—how do these devices/ strategies work to make the text more effective? Why are the devices/ strategies effective? Analyze, analyze, analyze!!!):

2. Evidence from the text: _____

- Explanation of the evidence:

3. Evidence from the text: _____

- Explanation of the evidence:

IV. Main Body Paragraph Topic #3: _____

(Include rhetorical device or strategy by chronology. Identify—what is the meaning or purpose of the essay? What rhetorical devices did the author use to achieve this? What is the tone?)

1. Evidence from the text (find—where in the essay can you find evidence to support your convictions? Please write your quotes or specific examples here):

- Explanation of the evidence (explain—how do these devices/ strategies work to make the text more effective? Why are the devices/ strategies effective? Analyze, analyze, analyze!!!):

2. Evidence from the text: _____

- Explanation of the evidence:

3. Evidence from the text: _____

- Explanation of the evidence:

V. Conclusion (Summarize **briefly**, include final thoughts, make a lasting impression and close on a powerful note....)

- **NO CHEERLEADING!!**(i.e. The author does a great job at presenting his/her viewpoint...yuck!!)
- Do not use the words, "In conclusion" (or "thing", or "due to the fact", or any slang or clichés for that matter!)
- Leave it at 1-2 sentences, if you must, but don't ramble. Remember, it's better to be brief, concise, and to the point than include unnecessary words/sentences simply to fill up space
