

# Rhetorical Analysis Organizer

(OR everything you need to identify to write a RA essay, including WHAT does the author say, HOW do they say it, and WHY do they say it this way?)

1. What is the **title** of the piece?
2. Who is the **author** of the piece?
3. What is the author's **central claim**?
  - a. Claim:
  - b. Passage(s) from the text that most clearly states the claim:
4. What is the author's **primary purpose**? Remember while this is *related* to the central claim, the purpose addresses not just what the author is claiming, but what they hope to *achieve* through their writing.
  - a. Primary Purpose:
  - b. Passage from the text that most clearly states the purpose:
5. For whom is the piece written? Who is the intended **audience**?
  - a. Audience:
  - b. Explain how the author makes choices in this piece to appeal to this specific audience:
6. Explain the **context** and **exigence** of the piece. What was happening at the time the piece was written and how did those events create a need for this piece to be written?
  - a. Context:
  - b. Exigence:
7. What is the author's attitude about the subject matter or **tone**?
  - a. Tone (use an adverb+verb to communicate this, eg defiantly mischievous or cautiously optimistic):
  - b. Specific words/language that communicate the tone:
8. What specific rhetorical techniques (eg anecdote, hypophora, anaphora, etc) does the author use?
  - a. Technique #1:
    - i: example of this technique from the passage:
    - ii: explanation of WHY the author makes use of this specific technique:

## **Rhetorical Analysis Organizer**

(OR everything you need to identify to write a RA essay, including WHAT does the author say, HOW do they say it, and WHY do they say it this way?)

b. Technique #2:

i: example of this technique from the passage:

ii: explanation of WHY the author makes use of this specific technique:

c. Technique #3:

i: example of this technique from the passage:

ii: explanation of WHY the author makes use of this specific technique: