**Rhetorical Argument Analysis Assignment**

**Due Dates:**

**Graphic Organizer/ Questions:** Friday, 2/24

**Draft1:** Tuesday, February 28

**Draft 2**: Friday, March 3rd (peer edit)

**Final:** Monday, March 6th in class/ emailed by midnight (Sun. 3/5- Mon.3/6) to [geigern@calvertnet.k12.md.us](mailto:geigern@calvertnet.k12.md.us)

**Requirements:**

The **rhetorical analysis essay** must objectively analyze the context of a particular speech and identify rhetorical strategies in an effort to determine the speech’s effectiveness. It should follow a logical organizational pattern.

The paper **must follow** all the conventions of standard formal English. It must be formatted as required for academic papers and titles appropriately. (*see syllabus*)

As indicated on the syllabus, the essay should be roughly **500 words** in length.

As with all essays for the 1010 portion of the class, citations are required when citing a source.

All citations must follow **MLA guidelines**: they **do not** require a separate works cited list but may simply be listed at the bottom of the last page of the essay. All pieces of evidence cited within the paper must use **attributors and parenthetical citations** to identify their sources.

Students are required to submit the final essay with an **approved/graded/initialed** copy of the graphic organizer **and one** draft essay attached. After one week, papers **may not** be accepted.

If a student is **absent on the due date** of the final paper, he/she should **email the paper** to the instructor and then submit the outline and draft attachments upon return to school.

Name:

Date:

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Rhetorical Analysis

**Rhetorical Analysis**

**Directions:** Before you begin typing your speech or composing your essay, answer the following questions and submit with your outline.

1. ~~As far as you can tell, who is the speaker of the speech?~~
2. How does this person’s job title effect the ethos of this speech?
3. ~~What is the argument that is being presented?~~
4. How does the argument repeat arguments previously made by the author/speaker? (you may need to do some research)
5. What motivated the author to deliver the speech?
6. Who is the audience, and how do the occasion and forum affect the argument?
7. How would the argument have been written differently if it had appeared elsewhere?
8. ~~What is the historical context of the piece?~~
9. What is the main claim of the argument?
10. What reasons are given in support of the claim?
11. How is the argument organized? What are the components, and why are they presented in that order?
12. What rhetorical appeals are used?
    1. Ethos- how does writer represent himself? Does the speaker have credentials as an authority on the topic? Do you trust him? Why/Why not?
    2. Logos- where you find facts and evidence in the argument? What kind of facts and evidence does the speaker present?
    3. Pathos- Does the writer attempt to invoke an emotional response? Where do you find appeals to shared values? What values does the audience hold in common with the writer? What values might he not hold in common with the audience?

Outline: *This outline structure does NOT mean that your essay only has to be 3 paragraphs- in fact- it will probably be more than 3 but NO LESS! This is a guide to setting up your outline.*

1. Introduction
   1. Describe briefly the argument you are analyzing, including where it was delivered and how, how long it is, and who wrote it.
   2. If the argument is about an issue unfamiliar to your readers, supply the necessary background information (do this!)
2. Body
   1. Analyze the context- use answers from 2-8 to construct these paragraph(s)
   2. Analyze the context- use answers 9-12 to construct these paragraph(s)
3. Conclusion
   1. Do more than simply summarize what you have said. End with an example that typifies the argument.
   2. You do not have to end by either agreeing or disagreeing with the writer. Your task is to analyze the strategies the speaker uses.