

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Analyzing Famous Speeches as Arguments

**Learning Goal(s):** Students will analyze the effectiveness of patterns of organization and different techniques authors use to achieve their purpose. Students will analyze how the author's use of details, persuasive techniques, and logic promotes his/her point of view.



### SCCR:

- I-E.3.3.3 Gather information from a variety of primary and secondary sources and evaluate for perspective, validity, and bias.
- I-E.3.11.1 Analyze how point of view and author's perspective and purpose shape content, meaning, and style, supports rhetorical or aesthetic purposes, and conveys cultural experience
- RI-E.3.6.1 Determine two or more central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of a text including how they interact and build on one another to provide a complex analysis of the topic; provide an objective summary of the text.

What is **Rhetoric**?

NOUN

1. **persuasive speech or writing:** speech or writing that communicates its point persuasively
2. **pretentious words:** complex or elaborate language that only succeeds in sounding pretentious
3. **empty talk:** fine-sounding but insincere or empty language
4. **skill with language:** the ability to use language effectively, especially to persuade or influence people
5. **study of writing or speaking effectively:** the study of methods employed to write or speak effectively and persuasively

### Elements of Rhetorical/Literary Devices:

Tone, Diction, Figurative Language (Simile, Metaphor, Personification, Hyperbole etc), Repetition, Restatement, Parallelism, Rhetorical Questions, Aphorisms, Allusions

**Elements of Argument:** Claim, Evidence, Reasoning / Appeals to Audience (logic, pathos, ethos)/ Rhetorical Devices

### Procedure:

1. Visit <https://www.americanrhetoric.com/top100speechesall.html> and select a speech
2. Complete the next page
3. Answer question 10 in a constructed response (similar to the essay on your test). I will utilize our standard writing rubric.

Famous Speech: \_\_\_\_\_

Date delivered: \_\_\_\_\_ Occasion: \_\_\_\_\_

**All questions should be answered in complete sentences AND typed. Failure to follow instructions will result in a point deduction.**

1. What is the purpose that the speaker wanted to accomplish? How do you know (include evidence from the text)?
2. Who is the intended audience and how do you know?
3. What is the persona or impression that the speaker makes of him/ herself? How do you know?
4. What is the main purpose of the speech?
5. What is the diction used by the author? How is this diction appropriate for audience and purpose?
6. What is the tone used in the speech? How do you know? Is it appropriate for the audience and purpose?
7. Rhetorical Devices Used (Figurative Language, Repetition, Hyperbole, Restatement, Parallelism, Rhetorical Questions, Aphorisms, Conceding to the Opposition, Appeals to Ethos, Pathos, Logos).
8. Look at the appeal types (Ethos, Pathos, and Logos). Choose one of your appeals and write an explanation of how you know it is this type of appeal.
9. If you were in the audience, how would you respond to this speech and why?
10. **What makes this speech an effective argument and worthy of making this list?** Answer this question in a well-developed paragraph(s). You will need to introduce the speech including context, audience, and purpose, Then, analyze the speaker's diction, tone, how the speaker appealed to the audience (ethos, pathos, and logos), and the effectiveness of rhetorical devices used by the speaker.