

# Rhetorical Analysis Paper

This paper is meant to help re-introduce you into academic thought and writing that you did in English 1010. It is similar to the Summary and Strong Response paper.

This paper introduces you to strategies for reading and compressing difficult material, and then asks you to enter the conversation in which your source text works. You'll also start learning research methods and citation formatting (APA).

This paper is worth 75 points: 40 for content, 10 for organization, 10 for style, and 15 for presentation. Plus, an additional 13 for peer reviews and having a draft ready on time.

## **Requirements**

This paper will be **750-1250 words** (about 3-5 pages), following all the class style and formatting guidelines. You will find **1 academic source** from your research.

With this source, you will write a **250 word (or less) summary** of the article. Your summary should restate the points succinctly, accurately, and as fairly as possible; remain objective and neutral, not revealing your own ideas on the subject but, rather, only the original author's points; give the original article balanced and proportional coverage; use your own words to express the original author's ideas; and keep your reader informed through attributive tags (such as "according to" or "argues that") that you are expressing someone else's ideas, not your own. Avoid using verbs that reflect a bias (such as "rants" or "leaps to the conclusion").

After the summary, you are to write a **rhetorical analysis** for the remainder of the paper. You must respond both with the grain and against the grain. This analysis starts with a thesis statement that forecasts the structure of the rest of the paper and makes a substantive claim statement that sets up a clear argument for the analysis. Your analysis must focus on the rhetorical situation, purpose, audience, and specific kinds of claims (fact/value/policy). Make sure you cite appropriate quotations and paraphrase as supporting evidence for your claim. Then, explain what that quote is saying and why it is doing what you say it does. You then conclude with your citation on a References page. Make sure to include the word count of your paper in brackets at the end of the paper.

Chapters 2 and 3 in Green and Lidinsky will provide you lots of guidance in how to construct a rhetorical analysis.

## **Submission**

You will submit this paper electronically. I accept documents in RTF, DOC, DOCX, or ODT format. See the formatting document and the naming conventions document on the class blog for specific requirements.

At the bottom of your teacher draft, you will start a new page (CTRL+Enter on Windows) and then copy and paste in your peer draft (with or without peer comments).

With your submission, you will also include the PDF of your source (or, you may print it out and bring it to class); the teacher review sheet (downloaded from the blog and renamed appropriately); and a cover letter document that tells how you want me to comment, whose papers you peer reviewed, who peer reviewed your paper, and what you changed (or didn't) and why.