



# Rhetorical Analysis

Seeing the forest for the trees....

Shamelessly curated from AP Forum. Edited.

# Introduction

1. Include ALL part of SOAPSTonE in your introduction in any way that you see fit.
2. Use accurate verbs (“RA Handbook- Weebly”).
3. Indicate the Rhetorical Choices made by the author.
4. To ensure you get the “Thesis Point” discuss the choices made, and purpose of the text worded as an argument.



# Body (Analysis)

This is where you include a detailed explanation of the choices made by the speaker .

When writing an analysis, you may work chronologically through the text--paragraph/chunk by paragraph/chunk--or by strategy used.

Every analysis paragraph MUST:

- ◆ Identify the part of the text you are analyzing. Incorporate direct textual evidence woven in with your analysis. (USE SMALL CHUNKS)
- ◆ Identify the BEST rhetorical choices made ...
- ◆ Clearly and specifically explain HOW the rhetorical choices help the writer achieve his/her purpose to persuade his/her audience in the occasion.
- ◆ WHY does the author choose those moves/strategies? How does it “get into the audience’ head?
- ◆ Your explanation must be thorough enough to convince the AP Reader your analysis is correct.
- ◆ The above items must be woven together seamlessly into the body of your analysis essay.
- ◆ Select accurate and precise verbs. (**'Use' is not allowed.**)

# Conclusion

Now that the reader has read your entire essay, what should he/she think?

- ◆ Comment on the article's overall effectiveness in its context (not an opinion- but the why it's effective)
- ◆ This is hinted at in your body via direct discussion of the effectiveness of each strategy, but this is a discussion of the entire essay's effectiveness of purpose.
- ◆ This kind of commentary at the end MIGHT get you a “sophistication of thought” point