

Rhetorical Analysis Essay

ENG 4U

Task: Select a speech by a reputable source and critique it according to the criteria discussed in class.

1. Choose a famous speech and fully annotate the text while considering content, structure, and rhetorical devices being used.
2. Note as many examples of the author's use of devices and the function they serve as possible. That is, point out what is being done and why it is effective. If you have access to the audio version, you may also deconstruct the oral techniques being employed.
3. You may also wish to examine what George Orwell would say about the article. Explain whether you think that the "language errors" are done intentionally and for effect or whether they are merely examples of sloppy English.
4. Present your findings in the form of an essay. **That is, develop a thesis that analyzes how the author proves his or her thesis/purpose.** E.g. "Smith's article is an excellent example of how an author can manipulate language to disguise her real intention of creating patriotic fervour."
5. The essay should be two to three pages, double-spaced. You must also submit:
 - a. Textual Analysis Chart
 - b. The annotated speech
 - c. At least one hand edited version your analysis

Note: a short list of things to consider:

Appeal to logos, pathos, or ethos; purpose; audience; occasion; tone; syntax; structure; effectiveness/persuasive of the argument; rhetorical devices