

Name: _____

Date: _____

Period: _____

Rhetorical Analysis Final Paper ***The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls**

Directions: To fulfill the expectations of expository and informative writing for this quarter, you will write a 2-to-4-page (500-1000 words) paper (MLA format- Times New Roman- 12 Pt. Font, Double-Spaced) that rhetorically analyzes three strategies in *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls. This composition will serve as your final exam for semester one. In the introduction, you will need to have an Irish thesis statement that outlines the three rhetorical strategies under review and addresses the exigence in this particular rhetorical situation. You will need to include three developed and textually supported advanced expository paragraphs that explore the role of the rhetorical strategies in conveying the purpose of the story. Your composition needs a conclusion and a bibliography. You will need to demonstrate a command of critical thinking, proper paragraphing, MLA format, and conventions of Standard English. This is a formal composition. Therefore, please refer to the 21 writing tips handout.

Due Date: Monday, December 14 by 11:59pm via Canvas

References for Writing Process

[Rhetorical Devices Handout](#)

Rhetorical Strategy Paragraph

[Rhetorical Analysis Sheet](#)

Irish Thesis Statement:

[X]. However, [A], [B], and [C]. Therefore, [Y].

[X] = Counter-claim (what others might claim about the memoir)

[A] = Rhetorical Device One (a.k.a. topic for first topic sentence)

[B] = Rhetorical Device Two (a.k.a. topic for second topic sentence)

[C] = Rhetorical Device Three (a.k.a. topic for third topic sentence)

[Y] = Main Claim/ Exigence (a.k.a. the reason why the memoir was written)

Exemplary Examples of Thesis Statements:

Some might argue that *The Glass Castle* is simply another contributor to the rise of the memoir in American bookstores. However, the utilization of a flash-forward plot sequence, the manipulation of language, and the didactic employment of a literary conceit ensures that Jeannette Walls is able to explore how reflection can empower a person.

Checklist for the Thesis Statement:

_____ The Title- Does it say *The Glass Castle* (in italics)?

_____ The Writer- Does it say Jeannette Walls?

_____ The [X] Does it identify something someone else might say about the text?

_____ The [A], [B], & [C] Does it list/identify three rhetorical strategies?

_____ The [Y] Does it identify the exigence of the text (a.k.a. the purpose)?

Basic Rules for a Formal Rhetorical Analysis:

1. Never use first or second person. (That means no ‘I’ or ‘we’ or ‘our’ or ‘my’ or ‘you/your’ or ‘us’)
2. Explanations should be at least **twice** as long as the textual evidence.
3. Explanations should be a **minimum of two sentences** regardless of the length of textual evidence.
4. Textual evidence should be **less than five lines**. If four lines or more, block indent is necessary.
5. Always introduce a quotation. (According to Professor Jones of Comparative Statistics, ...)
6. Include the titles of quoted individuals or institutions to amplify ethos in your writing.
7. Always include an in-text citation that matches in your bibliography. (MLA format)
8. Always include a bibliography. (MLA= Works Cited)
9. Each paragraph should follow the advanced expository writing structure.
10. Be critical. Use higher-order thinking. Include rhetorical appeals.

Suggestions: Get away from personified introductions to quotations. Instead of saying [it states] or [the words state], accredit the “words” and the “it” to the person or group responsible for perpetuating that information. Use commas between subordinate and independent clauses. Write out numbers consistently.

Advanced Expository Paragraphing. Each body paragraph should have the following components:

1. **Topic Sentence** that identifies the rhetorical device under review and how it contributes to the overarching purpose of the text.
2. **Elaboration** that explains a little bit more about the particular device’s function in the text.
3. **Introduction to the Quotation 1** that indicates who is speaking or writing.
4. **Quotation 1** that manifests as a direct quotation and includes an in-text citation.
5. **Explanation 1** that explores how this particular quotation demonstrates the rhetorical device.
6. **Introduction to the Quotation 2** that indicates who is speaking or writing. This must be longer than the selected quotation.
7. **Quotation 2** that manifests as a direct quotation and includes an in-text citation.
8. **Explanation 2** that explores how this particular quotation demonstrates the rhetorical device. This must be longer than the selected quotation.
9. **Tie Back to Thesis** that shows the connection to the greater purpose of the memoir

Let’s Practice:

Topic Sentence

Elaboration

Textual Support No. 1

Introduction of Quotation

Quotation

Citation (Author Last Name Page #).

Block Indent Needed? **Yes** **No**

Explanation No. 1

Textual Support No. 2

Introduction of Quotation

Quotation

Citation (Author Last Name Page #).

Block Indent Needed? **Yes** **No**

Explanation No. 2

Tie Back to Thesis

MLA Reference Citation for Works Cited Page

***Reference the Final Paper Checklist for a comprehensive overview of the expectations and point breakdown for each component of this assignment.**