"Why We Care about Whales" - Marina Keegan

**Passage Analysis**

**SOAPSTONE**

- **S** → Whales in Crisis
- **O** → Lack of Human Compassion toward humans
- **A** → Western society middle/upper class
- **P** → To critique the fact that humans are afraid of helping other humans
- **S** → Marina Keegan
- **T** → Critical

**Prompt Info.**

**LIST BASICS TO ADDRESS**

- **EXIGENCE** = would be the abstract component - must address this in the thesis
- Concrete components are listed here

**Rhetorical Devices**

**LIST THE DEVICES**

- personification
- conversational tone
- characterization of whales to enhance the victimization effect
- descriptive language - imagery
- anecdotal introductions
- scientific language - educated vibe
- alliteration
- allusion to Greek mythology
- comparative language
- first person pov - plural/collective
- appeals to cultural consciousness
- shortened sentences to emphasize points and to quicken the reading pace

**Appeals Overview**

**ETHOS-PATHOS-LOGOS**

1. **ETHOS** - "I know this because I watched as twenty-three whale mouths unhunged." (152) - personal experience = credibility
2. **PATHOS** - "When the moon gets bored, it kills whales." (151) - pathetic appeal through a descriptive recount of whale victimization - emotional hook
3. **LOGOS** - "More than two thousand cetaceans die from beaching each year." (151) - data to the facts

**Thesis Statement**

**CHECKLIST POTENTIAL**

In Marina Keegan's "Why We Care about Whales," she critiques the fact that humans are afraid of helping other humans through a descriptive and conversational analysis of whale victimization and personal anecdotal evidence, underscoring a problematic aspect of current collective cultural consciousness.

**Selected Strategies**

**THE A-B-C TOPICS**

A. **Whale victimization - pathetic appeal**
B. **Personal Knowledge - first person account**
C. **Conversational tone to elicit cultural consciousness**