



Summerville Union High School

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English Department

“Live as if you were to die tomorrow.

Learn as if you were to live forever.” Mahatma Gandhi

9th grade—Rhetorical Terms Pre-Test

This template is a pre-test to non-fiction terms we will be examining and studying as we approach our analysis of non-fiction. Do your best to fill in the blanks, but do not stress if you are unsure. Answer each question and place an indicator (star, happy face, etc.) next to terms you are confident about.

Analyze	Criteria	Assess	Ethos	Syntax
Synthesize	Critique	Rebuttal	Pathos	Tone
Claim	Evaluate	Counterclaim	Logos	Thesis
Inference	Justify	Argument	Diction	Style

- justify To prove or show (something) to be just, right, or reasonable
- counterclaim A claim made to offset another claim, especially one made by the defendant in a legal action.
- critique To examine critically, carefully, and in detail
- assess To officially say what the amount, value, or rate of (something) is
- rebuttal The speech act of refuting by offering a contrary contention or argument
- ethos ^{ethics} The trustworthiness or credibility of the writer or speaker.
- synthesize To make (something) by combining different things
- argument A discussion involving differing points of view; debate; a process of reasoning
- pathos ^{puppies} An appeal to the audience's sympathies and imagination
- claim To assert in the face of possible contradiction
- logos The clarity of the claim, the logic of its reasons, and the effectiveness of its supporting evidence
- evaluate A careful judgment in which you give your opinion about the good and bad parts of something (such as a piece of writing or a work of art)
- diction The choice and use of words and phrases in speech or writing.
- inference A judgment based on reasoning rather than on direct or explicit statement (reading between the lines)
- thesis A proposition stated or put forward for consideration, especially one to be discussed and proved or to be maintained against objections

16. style The expressive qualities that distinguish an author's work, including word choice, sentence structure, and figures of speech
17. criteria A standard on which a judgment or decision may be based
18. syntax The arrangement of words and phrases to create well-formed sentences in a language
19. tone The attitude the speaker has toward the subject and/or toward the audience
20. analyze To judge the value or condition of (someone or something) in a careful and thoughtful way +