

Prompt Analysis

Prompt Format: [Background on the rhetorical situation]. Read the passage carefully. Write an essay that analyzes the rhetorical choices [the writer] makes to [develop/achieve/convey] [his/her] [message].

- Make sure you understand the rhetorical situation. (Who is the audience? What is the context? Time period?)
- Take note of the message. (Underline it, write it down, etc).

Time Management: 45 Minutes Total (5 Minutes to Submit)

Prewriting: **11 min** | Drafting: **23 min** | Revision: **11 min** | Uploading: **5 min** (A red light will flash. UPLOAD RIGHT AWAY)

Rhetorical Choices

Rhetorical Choice*	Definition	How to Write About It ("The author...")
Ethos	An appeal to morality (right vs wrong)	<i>...creates ethos... OR ...appeals to morality...</i>
Logos	An appeal to logic or rational thought	<i>...creates logos... OR ...appeals to logic...</i>
Pathos	An appeal to emotion. *You must identify WHICH emotion.	<i>...creates pathos... OR ...appeals to [IDENTIFY EMOTION]...</i>
Rhetorical Questioning	A question posed without an expected response	<i>...questions [DESCRIBE WHAT IS BEING QUESTIONED]...</i>
Tonal Shift	A change in the speakers attitude.	<i>...’s tone shifts from [TONE 1] to [TONE 2]...</i>
Juxtaposition	Placing things side by side, creating a relationship	<i>...juxtaposes [ITEM 1] and [ITEM 2]...</i>
Repetition	Repeating words or phrases intentionally. *Not just because it’s the topic of the text	<i>...repeats [WORD/PHRASE]...</i>
Comparison/Contrast	Like juxtaposition, but the relationship is similarities or differences.	<i>...[COMPARES/CONTRASTS] [DESCRIBE WHAT IS BEING COMPARED/CONTRASTED]</i>
Illustration/Imagery	Using sensory language or detail to create a picture. (A vivid example).	<i>...illustrates [DESCRIBE THE IMAGE]...</i>
Allusion	A reference to history or literature.	<i>...alludes to [REFERENCE]</i>
Word Choice/Diction	The selection of words the author uses. *Must have a descriptor to specify diction.	<i>...employs {DESCRIPTOR} diction...</i>
Irony	Pointing out disparity in expectation and reality.	<i>...explains the irony of [DESCRIBE THE SITUATION]...</i>
Cause-Effect	A structural device that poses actions and reactions. (If-Then Sentences/Format)	<i>...employs cause and effect structure...</i>
Anticipating Objections	The author addresses opposition.	<i>...anticipates possible objections...</i>
Syntax	Sentence structure and variety. *Look for patterns and breaks in pattern.	<i>...[DESCRIBE THE PATTERN]... Ex: ...employs short, assertive sentences...</i>

**This is not an exhaustive list. If you notice something else that is persuading the audience effectively, go for it!*

Annotation

- How: Use your Mark Free Annotation Tool, print out and annotate, or take an image with a secondary device and annotate.
- What: Track the argument (chunk), label rhetorical choices, and find BIG ideas.

Introduction and Thesis

To earn the thesis point, your thesis statement must...

- Be specific. (Avoid vague statements like “to convey his message” or “to connect with his audience.”)
- Present a line of reasoning. (Identify rhetorical choices using the language provided).

Thesis Template: **In the passage,** _____ **develops/conveys/describes** _____.
[AUTHOR] [MESSAGE].

The passage _____ **as evidenced by how the author** _____ **and** _____.
[IDENTIFY PURPOSE] [CHOICE 1] [CHOICE 2]

To add sophistication, use the inverted introduction method: Start broad (BIG Idea), Narrow Focus, and State Thesis.

Body Paragraphs

Checklist	Sample
Claim (Assertion)	Kennedy refers to multiple government agencies and officials to highlight how America is collectively against the greedy actions of the steel companies.
Evidence	In addition to citing other agencies, Kennedy explains how the Dept of Justice and the Federal Commission are “examining the significance” of the price hike, how the Dept of Justice are “reviewing its impact”, and how Sen. McNamara brought the situation to his attention.
Commentary: Explain the strategy.	By referring to the Dept of Justice, Dept of Defense, and Sen. McNamara, Kennedy shows how all of these different groups and people are in opposition to the steel company.
Commentary: Explain the link to purpose.	This would elicit feelings of being “un-American” in a time of national crisis within the steel executives. Kennedy hopes this will influence them to reverse their price increase.

Conclusion

Simply restate your thesis. Use the template below.

Through the use of _____ **and** _____, _____ **'s purpose, to** _____, **is achieved.**
[CHOICE 1] [CHOICE 2] [AUTHOR] [PURPOSE]

To add sophistication, use the reverse of the inverted introduction: Restate Thesis, Widen Focus, and End Broad (BIG Idea).

Revision

Revision strategies that work:

- Read your essay out loud. It identifies awkward wording as well as clarity issues.
- Check your commentary. Does every body paragraph link back to purpose and WHY?
- Underline the rhetorical choices you are analyzing. They should be a) in your thesis, b) in your topic sentences, and c) in the conclusion.

Mark Free Annotation

Paraphrase Message (from the prompt)	Identify the Purpose (What action does the speaker want?)	Check off the Rhetorical Choices you see and give line numbers.					
		√		Lines	√		Lines
			Ethos			Illustration/ Imagery	
			Logos			Allusion	
			Pathos			Diction	
			Rhetorical ?			Irony	
			Tonal Shift			Cause-Effect	
			Juxtaposition			Anticipating Objections	
			Repetition			Syntax	
			Comparison/ Contrast			Other:	