

# Rhetorical Analysis Workshop

1. Does the writer have a strong introduction that (1) grabs the reader's attention, (2) orients the reader, (3) provides background and context, and (4) has a strong thesis?
2. Does the author's thesis present an interpretative claim? How could you argue against their claim if you wanted to?
3. Does the writer provide enough summary for the reader to understand what they are talking about? Is there too much summary (usually  $\frac{1}{2}$  a page of summary is enough)? Is the summary concentrated or spread out? Which would work better?
4. Does the writer quote from/reference specific parts of their text? Identify a paragraph where they need to do more of this.
5. What is the writer's theme or issue? Which rhetorical moves (author, genre, context, design, media, purpose, stance, etc.) does the author use to analyze their text?
6. Write down two points of analysis (where the author is interpreting part of the text in relation to their issue or theme). Are there places that feel only like summary and not analysis? Mark them with a \* in the margins.