

# Rhetorical Analysis Worksheet

**Work to be analyzed:**

*Example:*

Swift, Jonathan. "A modest proposal." 1729. *Quotidiana*. Ed. Patrick Madden. 19 Dec. 2007, [http://essays.quotidiana.org/swift/modest\\_proposal/](http://essays.quotidiana.org/swift/modest_proposal/). Accessed 20 July 2016.

## **Part 1: Introduction**

**Background:**

**Example:** Jonathan Swift asks readers to become more concerned with political problems in his home country of Ireland in the essay, "A modest proposal," which he wrote in 1729.

**Thesis statement:**

**Example:** Swift uses the rhetorical techniques of satire, irony and pathos in order to criticize the government.

## **Part 2: Body**

**Body paragraph 1 topic sentence:**

**Body paragraph 1 support:**

**Body paragraph 2 topic sentence:**

**Body paragraph 2 support:**

*Example:* Swift deliberately uses vocabulary throughout his essay that can be considered ironic.

The first example of this is in the title, as the proposal he makes is not “modest” at all.

**Body paragraph 3 topic sentence:**

**Body paragraph 3 support:**

## **Conclusion**

**Summary/synthesis of body:**

**Final statement or analysis:**

*Example:* Swift's political opinions are powerful and memorable because of his effective use of rhetorical techniques which are as humorous as they are shocking.

**This worksheet was put together with help from:**

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/725/03/>

**Remember to 'Cite as you Write!'**

**If you need more help, book an appointment at the WLC:**

**<https://alexander.mywconline.com>**