

# Rhetorical Analysis Worksheet

University Transfer Courses

A rhetorical analysis is when you write about the writing (i.e. *how* has the author argued something?). This form of analysis focuses on the “rhetorical” aspects of a source, like an author’s background, intent, and writing format. Answer the questions in the chart below to help formulate your rhetorical analysis.

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| **Who is the author? What is their background?** |
| **What is the author’s thesis? Are you convinced by it?** |
| **Who is the author’s intended audience?** |
| **What kind of evidence is presented? Does it support the thesis?** |
| **What diction or tone is used? Does the author appeal to emotion?** (ex. formal, technical, repetition, quotes) |
| **What sentence structures are used?** (ex. fragments, run-ons, declarative, exclamatory) |

**For additional help, please make an appointment with a Writing & Learning Centre Humanities specialist at:** [**https://alexander.mywconline.com/**](https://alexander.mywconline.com/)