

Rhetorical Patterns in Writing

Goal: This Directed Learning Activity is intended to introduce you to rhetorical patterns, and will help you become familiar with terms, definitions and applications of the concepts surrounding the topic.

Activities: This portion of the Directed Learning Activity is meant to be done independently. This portion will include activities such as exercises, games, Power Point presentations, and/or other lessons that show applications of the topic. You should print all materials used and take notes on anything you learn in this Directed Learning Activity.

1. In this exercise you will need to define, in your own words, all of the different rhetorical essay patterns. Cut and paste the following URL, and read the document. When you are finished, write your understanding of the definitions of each in the lines provided.

<http://www.tc.umn.edu/~jewel001/CollegeWriting/START/Modes.htm>

a. Narration:

b. Description:

c. Exemplification:

d. Definition:

e. Comparison/Contrast:

f. Process Analysis:

g. Division and Classification:

h. Cause/Effect:

i. Persuasion: Try to define this one from your own analysis

2. Next you will learn some strategies for beginning an essay in all of the rhetorical patterns you have defined. Cut and paste the following URL for a document containing these strategies. Print the document and for each rhetorical pattern you will think of a topic and answer the questions contained. Your topics may overlap more than one rhetorical pattern if the topic is reasonable for each.

<http://rwc.hunter.cuny.edu/reading-writing/on-line/patt-dev.html>

3. Now that you have answered questions about your writing topic in the rhetorical patterns, you will need to pose and answer some questions of your own that will help you write your essay.

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On a separate sheet of paper, write a minimum of two questions and answers for each rhetorical pattern.

Review: With a tutor at the writing center, discuss specific terms, their definitions, and all of the examples you have written. Make sure to be clear about your understanding of the definitions, and the examples you have given. Clarity will be gauged by your use of specific terms you learned during the Activities portion of this Directed Learning Activity. **In order to pass this Directed Learning Activity, you must have all the above Activities completed.**