

ASSIGNMENT DETAILS
Spring 2016
Composition 2
Prof. Scanlan

Essay 1: Picking Favorites: Or, What Does Rhetorical Success Mean to You?

After reading these ten articles that are related to education, thinking, and culture, choose your favorite. Then write an essay in which you explain why it is your favorite. We will use the term rhetorical success to help explore the idea of what makes something your favorite. By using the term rhetorical success, we will analyze how an essay works to convince you. For example, does one article use more humor or more facts? As we will learn, rhetorical success is based on writing techniques. Success, for this essay, therefore, is not based on right versus wrong, but rather, success is based on the effectiveness of the argument. For our purposes, effective argument means the persuasive use of logic, authority, emotion, or myth (the four modes of rhetoric).

Article Authors:

Salvatore Scibona
Helen Keller
Malcolm X
Benjamin Franklin
Richard Lederer

Ngugi Wa Thiong'O
Ralph Waldo Emerson
Judith Krug
Abigail Adams
Anna Quindlen

Your essay will be graded in terms of **Four** major features:

1. A clear title and an introduction that includes a powerful thesis, a brief summary of the article (two sentences max) and a methodology.
2. Clear definition of what rhetorical success means to you and precise use of all rhetoric terms.
3. Use of concrete nouns, well-structured sentences, and clear paragraphs.
4. Incorporate at least three direct quotations from the article into your essay and include a works cited page.

Details: Your essay must be between 700-800 words long (3-4 pages). It must be typed, double-spaced, and use our Standard Journal Format. Please use spell-check and grammar-check.

Due Dates:

Thurs, Feb 25: First Draft due in class for peer review. Two pages minimum.

Tues, Mar 1: Final Draft Due in class: in folder with process work.

(305 words)