

## Sample Grid | A Framework for Reading Any Text Rhetorically

When you are reading or composing, consider applying the framework of the guided reading to what you're analyzing or creating. The image below is the grid that we use for the guided readings in this text. It's a grid that you can use for approaching any text and for evaluating your own compositions.

### RHETORICAL SITUATION & CHOICES

#### PURPOSE

What is the composer trying to do? Inform? Persuade? Tell a story? Something else? Does he or she have multiple purposes? And how can you tell?

#### AUDIENCE

Who is the composer communicating to? Are there secondary audiences?

#### RHETORICAL APPEALS

How does the composer entice his or her audience(s)? To what extent does the composer establish his or her ethos? Is logos evident in the text? Does the author appeal to readers' emotions (pathos)?

#### MODES & MEDIA

What is the mode (visual, text, audio)? Why do you think the composer chose that mode? Or perhaps more than one mode is used; if so, why do you think the author made that choice? What is the medium (print or digital)? Why do you think the composer chose that medium?

◀ What is the composer doing?

Place the text that you're reading or evaluating right here in the middle.

Next, read through the annotations in the margins to look more closely at the composer's rhetorical choices and how the composer works within his or her chosen genre.

### GENRE CONVENTIONS

▶ What genre has the composer chosen to work in? To what extent is he or she adhering to that genre's conventions?

#### ELEMENTS OF THE GENRE

What are some of the patterns you notice across several examples of this genre? Is there a typical organization pattern or approach? Do sentences or paragraphs seem to be notably short or long? Does one element always seem to appear, such as an anecdote, or an abstract, or notes in the margin?

#### STYLE

Is it in the first or third person? Is the tone formal or informal? What is the level of vocabulary used?

#### DESIGN

How is formatting used? Are images included? Is color used?

#### SOURCES

What kind of source material is used (personal experience, Internet research, interviews, etc.)? How are sources referenced within the piece?