

Name: _____

Per. _____

CE ENG 2010: Rhetorical Analysis

Author: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

Publication / Website: _____

DIRECTIONS: Read the opinion column/editorial. Annotate the column, noting how the argument is structured and supported. (You might want to read the questions first to guide your annotations.) After analyzing the argument, answer the following questions:

1. What is the author's claim and where is it located in the column?
2. Which of the three types of Toulmin claims is it—a claim of fact, value, or policy—and why?
3. Describe how the argument is built and supported (a referential summary). Include in your summary a description of the premises of the argument, and the supporting explanations and evidence provided, including facts, data, and experts cited.
4. Does the argument make any concessions to opposing counterarguments? If so, where? And if so, does the author offer any rebuttal of counterarguments?

5. Analyze the argument's rhetorical (persuasive) content. Include in your rhetorical summary what strategies of language are used by the author to be persuasive, and the use and likely effect of warrants and appeals on the intended audience.

6. Does the argument contain any logical fallacies? If so, where and what type, and how might they affect the intended audience?

7. Given its length and genre, does the op/ed make a sound argument? Why or why not? Evaluate the effectiveness of the argument and explain your conclusions.