

Rhetorical Analysis Guided Draft Essay Plan

These plans lead students to draft full Rhetorical Analysis essays over the course of two weeks. Activities include a mix of pre-writing, scaffolded drafting, and targeted skill development. You can assign all of the activities or pick and choose the ones you'd like to use!

Students will respond to a prompt about Annie Dillard's excerpted 1982 essay "[Total Eclipse](#)." You can find the complete prompt and other options for texts and prompts in our [assignment library](#).

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
<p>Students review key elements of rhetorical analysis writing and brainstorm ideas for their essays.</p> <p>Tutorial: Writing a Rhetorical Analysis Essay (5-10 min)</p> <p>View (Send this link to students)</p> <p>Reading: "Total Eclipse" by Annie Dillard (20 min)</p> <p>View (Send this link to students)</p>	<p>Students identify the text's purpose and rhetorical choices in order to draft thesis statements.</p> <p>Pre-writing: Generating a Thesis (15 min)</p> <p>View (Send this link to students)</p> <p>Quick Write: My Thesis (20 min)</p> <p>Assign</p>	<p>Students collect evidence in order to plan their essays.</p> <p>Pre-writing: Finding and Analyzing Evidence (30 min)</p> <p>View (Send this link to students)</p>	<p>Students draft the first body paragraph of their essays.</p> <p>Tutorial: Body Paragraphs in Rhetorical Analysis (5-10 min)</p> <p>View (Send this link to students)</p> <p>Rhetorical Analysis Guided Draft: First Body Paragraph (30 min)</p> <p>Assign</p> <p>(Students will work on the assignment for the next week. Consider first sharing this Guided Draft overview video with them.)</p>	<p>Students draft their second body paragraphs.</p> <p>Rhetorical Analysis Guided Draft: Second Body Paragraph (30 min)</p>
<p>Students draft their third body paragraphs.</p> <p>Rhetorical Analysis Guided Draft: Third Body Paragraph (30 min)</p> <p>(Students continue working in the same Guided Draft assignment they began last week.)</p>	<p>Students draft their introductions.</p> <p>Tutorial: Introductions in Rhetorical Analysis (5-10 min)</p> <p>View (Send this link to students)</p> <p>Rhetorical Analysis Guided Draft: Introduction (30 min)</p>	<p>Students learn what makes a strong conclusion, then draft their conclusions.</p> <p>Practice: The Two Jobs of a Conclusion (15 min)</p> <p>Assign</p> <p>Rhetorical Analysis Guided Draft: Conclusion (30 min)</p>	<p>Students identify language that is too informal, then revise and submit their essays.</p> <p>Practice: Recognizing Language That Is Too Formal or Too Informal (15 min)</p> <p>Assign</p> <p>Rhetorical Analysis Guided Draft: Revise for formality (30 min)</p> <p>(If you'd like students to revise on Day 10 or later on, leave feedback and click "Send back for revisions.")</p>	<p>[Optional] Students revise their essays based on teacher feedback.</p> <p>Feel free to plan this for a later date to leave time for reviewing and grading!</p> <p>Rhetorical Analysis Guided Draft: Revise based on teacher feedback (30 min)</p>

 We recommend sending students daily directions, available on the next page.

Rhetorical Analysis Guided Draft Essay Plan: Directions for Students

Here are some daily directions you can copy and paste to your students over email or your LMS. Feel free to add any of your own specific details or expectations!

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
<p>Go through this interactive tutorial to make sure you understand the key elements of a rhetorical analysis essay. (Note: You must be logged in to NoRedInk to access the tutorial.)</p> <p>Then, read the text you will be writing about, available here. As you read, pay close attention to the author's purpose and the strategies she uses, so that you can eventually write an essay in which you analyze one or more of the rhetorical choices Dillard makes in order to achieve her purpose.</p>	<p>Brainstorm your essay's thesis using this pre-writing sheet. Save or print all pre-writing sheets when you're done so you can reference them while you draft!</p> <p>Then, complete the Quick Write called "My Thesis," which you can find on your home page!</p>	<p>Today, prepare to draft your essay by collecting evidence for each of your body paragraphs using this pre-writing sheet.</p>	<p>Draft the first body paragraph of your essay today! First, go through this interactive tutorial to learn what strong body paragraphs should include.</p> <p>Then, open the Guided Draft assignment and type in your thesis to keep it top of mind.</p> <p>Next, write your first body paragraph based on the ideas in yesterday's outline.</p> <p>For an overview of the Guided Draft assignment, watch this video!</p>	<p>Open the Guided Draft assignment you started yesterday and write your second body paragraph.</p>

Tip: As students are drafting their essays, you can view their in-progress writing by clicking their names on the class results page for the assignment.

Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
<p>Open the Guided Draft assignment you've been working on and continue writing. Today, write your third body paragraph.</p>	<p>Learn how to write a strong introduction in a rhetorical analysis essay by going through this interactive tutorial.</p> <p>Then, go back into your Guided Draft and finish your introduction!</p>	<p>Learn how to write a strong conclusion by completing the practice topic "The Two Jobs of a Conclusion."</p> <p>Then, go back into your Guided Draft and write your conclusion.</p>	<p>Complete the practice topic "Recognizing Language That Is Too Formal or Too Informal."</p> <p>Then, go back into your Guided Draft and re-read your essay. Look for any language that is too informal, and change it to be appropriately formal. Finally, submit your essay!</p>	<p>Open up the Guided Draft assignment again and look at the feedback I left for you! Revise your essay based on my comments, then resubmit it.</p>