

Rhetorical Analysis of Target Journal Assignment



Purpose

The purpose of the Rhetorical Analysis of the FYC Journal is to gain an understanding of the conventions and expectations of this student writing journal that you are targeting for your Academic Research Article Project. Experienced writers will seek out models of the kinds of genres they're being asked to write in and analyze those models for conventions like organization, style, use of sources, format, etc. The Rhetorical Analysis of the FYC Journal will help you practice "reading like a writer" by analyzing two articles from the journal that your writing could be published in.

Format

List the author and title of each of the two articles you're analyzing at the top of the page. Please also attach a link to the two articles since they are freely available through the FYC website: fycjournal.ucdavis.edu. Then, answer the following questions for both articles. You can use each question as a subheading to organize your analysis, and you can talk about **both articles** under each subheading by comparing and contrasting the articles. You only need to write 200-250 words per question for **both** articles.

1. Who do you think is the target audience for the articles and why?
2. What do you think are the authors' purposes and why?
3. What is the genre (type of writing) of the articles? Briefly describe the expectations of this genre.
4. How would you describe the language and tone of the articles? Use evidence from the text to support your analysis. How does the language and tone of the articles relate to the authors' purposes and audiences?
5. What kind of evidence do the authors use to support their arguments? Give examples of the type of evidence used. How does the evidence used relate to the authors' purposes and audiences? Do the authors use visuals as evidence (tables, graphs, images, etc.)?
6. How are the articles organized overall? Are their subheadings? How do the authors make transitions between ideas?

7. Describe the introduction and the conclusions of the articles. What do the authors do to introduce their topic and argument or questions? How do the authors conclude their articles?

Aim to write about 200-250 words for each question, for a total of about 1,500 words.

Process

We'll practice these rhetorical analysis questions in class using an example student academic research article. The Rhetorical Analysis of a Target Journal is due to Canvas by Wednesday January 19th by 11:59pm.

Evaluation Criteria

The guidelines for the Rhetorical Analysis of the FYC Journal include comparing and contrasting two articles from your target journal or prize, completing a 200-250 word analysis for each of the seven rhetorical analysis questions, and discussing specific evidence from two articles to support your analysis.