

It's a Gift!

Use this paragraph rubric as a checklist to help ensure that you're constructing solid paragraphs that analyze the use of rhetorical features as they contribute to or enhance the theme in texts.

<p><b>Language Analysis  Paragraph Rubric</b></p>	1.	(optional) The writer provides an anecdote, allusion, quotation, statistic, or other device to <b>introduce</b> the essay and/or capture reader interest.
	2.	The writer constructs an effective <b>topic sentence</b> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The writer highlights a <b>critical rhetorical feature</b> that is essential to the passage's effectiveness.</li> <li>b. The writer effectively conveys the passage's <b>theme</b>.</li> </ul>
	3.	The writer <b>assertively explains</b> how rhetorical features work and how they're used in the passage. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The writer does not use adverbs such as "probably" or weak verbs to refer to the author and/or his or her work or message such as "may have been thinking" or "may be trying to convey."</li> <li>b. The writer does not make comments in the <b>subjunctive mood</b> such as "If the passage wouldn't have used this . . ." or "Had Welty eliminated that . . ."</li> </ul>
	4.	The writer <b>analyzes</b> how the use of figurative language/rhetorical features enhances the meaning of the text. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The writer uses <b>brief but pertinent quotations</b> and/or references to the text to exemplify the effects of rhetorical features.</li> <li>b. The writer <b>links his or her analysis</b> back to the idea(s) presented in the topic sentence.</li> </ul>
	5.	The writer has a <b>concluding</b> sentence and/or idea at the end of the paragraph. (Think about the idea of a bread twist-tie.)
	6.	The writer uses a well-constructed and interesting <b>sentence structure</b> to convey his or her message. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The writer combines sentences to include explanation and analysis and achieve a cohesive structure.</li> </ul>
	7.	The writer has few to no errors in grammar, usage, or mechanics ( <b>GUM</b> ). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The writer chooses the <b>most appropriate words</b> to convey his or her message.</li> </ul>