

#6 BRUTUS RHETORICAL ANALYSIS

For Brutus's Funeral Oration on p. 394-396, elaborate and support your answer to the questions in 2-3 sentences each.

Purpose: What is the speaker trying to accomplish? Is he trying to persuade the audience to take some action? Change their minds? Reconsider or think about something? Inspire? Communicate a particular experience?

Audience: Who is the target audience the speaker is trying to convince and what motivates them? What are their beliefs, needs or values? What are their biases? What kind of evidence will be needed to persuade the audience?

Persona: What is the public image the speaker is projecting?

Argument: What is the thesis/claim?

RHETORICAL PRÉCIS

- Sentence 1: Name of the author, genre, and title of work, date in parentheses; a rhetorically accurate verb (such as “claims,” “argues,” “asserts,” “suggests”); and a “that” clause containing the major assertion or thesis statement in the work.
- Sentence 2: An explanation of how the author develops and supports the thesis, usually in chronological order.
- Sentence 3: A statement of the author’s apparent purpose, followed by an “in order to” phrase.
- Sentence 4: A description of the intended audience and/or the relationship the author establishes with the audience.

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Rhetorical Précis

In the play *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar* by William Shakespeare, Brutus argues that _____
(thesis/claim)_____.

He _____ (rhetorically accurate verb) _____ his claim by/with _____ ** (explain what he says/does first)* _____, _____ ** (Explain what he says/does next)* _____ and, _____ ** (Explain what he finally says/does)* _____.

His purpose is to _____ (achieve this goal) _____ in order to _____
(What does the speaker want the audience to do or feel as a result?) _____.

He establishes a _____ relationship with his _____ audience through his _____ tone.