

Rhetorical Analysis Essays: Louv Passage

Top 3 Takeaways

1. Organization

- Give some thought to the organization of your essay; use some kind of logic to your order of ideas. (Examples: chronological, least effective to most effective, etc.)
- The strongest essays not only considered their own organization, but they also addressed the organization of Louv's passage.

2. Think about the “so what?”

- We’re disconnected from nature, according to Louv...but so what? (If I commented that your commentary needed to be more developed, this is often what is missing.)
- Avoid “cherrypicking” devices—make your essay more “idea” driven than “device” driven. How do these rhetorical choices fit together?
- Chronological approach, maybe?

Pause for an exciting announcement...

The word

LASTLY

did not appear in A SINGLE, SOLITARY ESSAY!

3. Another term that needs to RIP with “lastly”

- The phrase “uses ethos” (or pathos, or logos)

Why?

- You don’t really “use” ethos.
- Many students get them confused.
- They seem like a “default” or “last resort.”
- AP Readers truly hate these terms, so let’s break the habit now.
- Often, they overlap. (Often, the use of rhetorical choices—parallel structure, repetition, metaphors/similes—create pathos anyway.)
- You CAN talk about these strategies, but frame them with different terminology. (“The author establishes his credibility,” or “The speaker connects to the audience by using a nostalgic tone as he talks about the past.”)

A final note

Correct spelling of this word:

SEP**A****RATION**

(There is “a rat” in SEP**A**RATION.)