

Name _____ Class pd. _____ Date _____ Score _____

Rhetorical Devices

Directions: Read the following descriptions of several frequently used rhetorical devices. Then answer the questions about the narrator's speech in chapter 21.

Argument by Analogy

The speaker employs a comparison, often an extended simile or metaphor, to support the main point. For example, someone speaking on the importance of an education in the business world might use this analogy: Today, trying to succeed in business without an education would be like trying to walk across one of the Great Lakes in August—impossible.

Parallelism

The speaker uses a series of phrases or clauses that mirror one another in structure. This often adds balance, emphasis, and rhythm to the language. For example, workers negotiating with management might begin a series of sentences, "We do not want," and follow with one that starts, "We do want."

Rhetorical Question

These are questions to which the speaker or writer neither wants nor expects a response, usually because the answer is obvious. For example, someone might ask "Do you want to lose your house, your car, and everything else you have worked so hard to attain?"

1. What are your initial impressions of the narrator's speech?
2. Record one or two memorable lines from the speech.
3. Is any particular rhetorical device more effective than others? Explain.
4. Which rhetorical device does the narrator implement the most? How effective is he at using this device?