Mentor Introductions and Conclusions

Establishing Common Ground

1. As we have investigated environmental threats, our understanding of chemical processes in acid rain and the buildup of carbon dioxide has improved, allowing us to understand better their effects on the biosphere. common ground **But recently the processes that thin the ozone layer have been found to be less well understood than once thought**. destabilizing condition We may have labeled hydrofluorocarbons as the chief cause incorrectly. consequence We have found that the bonding of carbon… gist of solution/main point
2. **The Crusades are widely believed to have been motivated by religious zeal to restore the Holy Land to Christendom**. common ground **In fact**, the motives were at least partly, if not largely, political.
3. Open with a relevant/striking fact

Those who think that tax cuts for the rich stimulate the economy should contemplate the fact that the top 1 percent of Americans earn one-third of America’s total income.

4. Open with a relevant anecdote (ONLY if its language anticipates your topic and vividly illustrates your problem). The following paper addressed the economics of school segregation:

**This year Tawnya Jones begins junior high in Daughton, Georgia. Though her classmates are mostly African American like herself, her school system is considered racially integrated, at least legally. But except for a few poor whites and Hispanic students, Tawnya’s school still resembles the segregated and economically depressed one that her mother entered in 1962…**

Introductions - Samples from AP Exams

2015 Honor Code - Synthesis (7)

**The conflict regarding the utilization of honor codes can be seen in any school system, from elementary schools to college. Some argue that honor codes are ineffective in reducing cheating in schools, but statistically, that is not the case. While some argue that honor codes should not be implemented for reasons such as ineffectiveness of the code and the creation of a “big brother” -esque environment, honor codes should in fact be implemented because they promote a healthy academic environment, they statistically lower the percentage of academic dishonesty in schools, and they are adaptable to fit any school environment.**

2015 Cesar Chavez - Rhetorical Analysis (8)

The 60’s was the height of the Civil Rights movement. After King’s assassination, there were many calls for a violent response to the tragedy that had struck them. Cesar Chavez pleads with the people to help them see that the best way, the only way to achieve meaningful and significant change is through nonviolent actions. His use of striking diction, juxtapositions, and appeals to the fundamental beliefs of his readers leave his audience with little doubt as to the proper course of action.

2015 Politie Speech - Argument (8)

Being polite is considered an unspoken edict in order to be accepted in our first world culture that relies on societal niceties in order to function. Those part of such a community use polite speech to faintly imply intent but as the anthropologist concluded, these phrases are used to communicate politeness rather than the literal meaning of the sentences. This is because although these are unnecessary in accomplishing whatever one sets out to do directly, they are the trappings that make others more receptive to one’s own purpose, whether they are superiors, juries, or even the general public. Polite speech is what enables those who use it to obtain what they want in a society free from the pressures other than simple desire to do something. Polite speech lends respectability to proceedings.

Conclusions - Samples from AP Exams

2015 Honor Code - Synthesis

In conclusion, honor codes should be implemented in all schools because they foster honest academic environments, they are proven to reduce levels of cheating when put into practice, and the codes are adaptable to fit any environment. There are many who oppose the honor code system for various reasons, but when looked at in a larger scope, the honor code system is effective far more often than not.

2015 Cesar Chavez - Rhetorical Analysis

Chavez not only uses powerful contrast and moving diction to portray his cause favorably, but also - cleverly - appeals to his audience’s sense of decency and religion to leave them with the idea that nonviolence is the only truly successful and moral way to achieve their goals.

2015 Politie Speech - Argument

Therefore, it can be seen that although polite speech like regular communication may display intent, instead it in fact is used to relate politeness to the receiver. This connotates subservience, respectability, and ethical rightness to the audience for it, and so functions as a method to persuade those receiving the words to the side of the speaker. The usage of polite speech preys on human susceptibility to ethos and pathos in order to influence them to trust and support the speaker, and therefore it is evidence that polites speech is much more than empty words.