

Chapter 1 - Vocabulary - Terminology for AP Language and Composition

Directions: Familiarize yourself with these terms by creating flashcards using 3x5 index cards. Place the term on one side and the definition on the other side of the card with an example of the term (cite where you found example).

Date Assigned: January 4th

Flashcards Checked: January 12th

Quiz: January 19th (w/grammar)

Allusion: An indirect reference, often to another text or an historic event.

Analogy: An extended comparison between two seemingly dissimilar things.

Aphorism: A short, astute statement of a general truth

Argument: A statement put forth and supportive by evidence.

Assumption: A belief or statement taken for granted without proof.

Audience: One's listener, viewer, or readership; those to whom a speech or piece of writing is addressed.

Bias: Prejudice or predisposition toward one side of a subject or issue.

Concession: A reluctant acknowledgement or yielding.

Deduction: Reasoning from general to specific

Diction: Word choice

Ethos (ethical appeal): Greek term referring to the character of a person; one of Aristotle's three rhetorical appeals; the writer/speaker's credibility (writer/speaker's authority); trustworthiness of writer/speaker.

Figurative Language: Going beyond literal meaning to achieve literary effect.

Figure of Speech: An expression that strives for literary effect rather than conveying literal meaning.

Hyperbole: Exaggeration for the purpose of emphasis

Imagery: Vivid use of language that evokes a reader's senses (sight, smell, taste, touch, hearing)

Induction: Reasoning from specific to general

Irony: A contradiction between what is said and what is meant; incongruity between action and result

Juxtaposition: Placement of two things side by side for emphasis

Logical Fallacy: Error in reasoning that renders an argument invalid

Logos: A Greek term that means "word"; an appeal to logic; one of Aristotle's three rhetorical appeals; to persuade someone by the use of reason; can also be facts/statistics that help support an argument.

Metaphor: Figure of speech through which one thing is spoken of as though it were something else, thus making an implicit comparison

Occasion: The cause or reason for writing (why is this piece being written/spoken?)

Oxymoron: Figure of speech that combines two contradictory terms

Paradox: A statement that seems contradictory but is actually true

Parody: A piece that imitates and exaggerates the prominent features of another; used for comic effect or ridicule.

Pathos: A Greek term that refers to suffering but has come to be associated with broader appeals to emotion; one of Aristotle's three rhetorical appeals; appealing to reader's emotions; often contains vivid or emotional language and/or numerous sensory details.

Purpose: One's intention or objective in a speech or piece of writing

Refute: To discredit an argument, particularly a counterargument

Rhetoric: The study of effective, persuasive language use; "Available means of persuasion," according to Aristotle.

Satire: Ironic, sarcastic, or witty composition that claims to argue for something, but actually argues against it.

Simile: Figure of speech that uses "like" or "as" to compare two things.

Speaker: Author, speaker, or the person whose perspective (real or imagined) is being advanced in a speech or piece of writing.

Straw man: A logical fallacy that involves the creation of an easily refutable position; misrepresenting, then attacking an opponent's position.

Subject: The topic being addressed in a piece of writing.

Tone: The speaker's attitude toward the subject or audience.

Voice: In grammar, a term for the relationship between a verb and a noun (active/passive voice). In rhetoric, a distinctive quality in the style and tone of writing.