

Nonfiction Unit

Essays and articles are short works of **nonfiction**. Their authors are real people. Speeches are nonfiction works that are delivered by a speaker to an audience.

- An **essay** discusses a specific topic. It often includes the writer's personal opinions.
- An **article** provides factual information about a topic, a person, or an event.
- A **speech** is written to read aloud. It presents a topic and may **persuade, inform, explain, or entertain**.

The writer contributes more than information to nonfiction.

- **Style** is the way the author uses language. The style may be formal or informal. Style includes **word choice** and **figures of speech**. **Sentence structure** and **type of organization** also determine the author's style. Style shows the author's personality.
- **Tone** is the author's attitude toward the subject and the audience. You can "hear" tone in an author's choice of words and details. **The tone of nonfiction can often be described with a single word: *playful, serious, or sarcastic*** are just a few of the ways to describe tone.
- **Perspective** is the author's **point of view about a subject**. Authors may express their opinions directly or indirectly. **Bias** occurs when a writer gives a one-sided view. You can spot bias when the author ignores certain facts. You can also detect it in **emotional language**. Emotional language may unfairly sway the audience's feelings.
- **Purpose** is the author's **reason for writing**. Common purposes are **to inform, to persuade, and to entertain**.

A **persuasive speech** is one meant to **convince the listeners to think or act in a certain way**. Persuasive speeches **appeal to reason, emotion, or both**. Speakers often use **rhetorical devices** to engage the audience. **Rhetorical devices are patterns of words and ideas that create emphasis**. Such devices can also stir emotion in the audience.

RHETORICAL DEVICES

- **Parallelism:** REPEATING A GRAMMATICAL STRUCTURE or an arrangement of words to create a sense of rhythm and energy
- **Restatement:** expressing the SAME IDEA in DIFFERENT WORDS to clarify or stress important points
- **Repetition:** using the SAME WORDS MORE THAN ONCE to strengthen and connect ideas
- **Analogy:** making A COMPARISON that shows a similarity between two unlike things; many times the speaker uses a **concrete object to represent an abstract idea**

Examples of Rhetorical Devices in Speeches For each excerpt, highlight the example of the rhetorical device present.

<p>Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and the success of liberty.</p> <p>John F. Kennedy Presidential Inaugural Address delivered 20 January 1961</p>	<p>Yes, the money changers have fled from their high seats in the temple of our civilization. We may now restore that temple to the ancient truths.</p> <p>Franklin Delano Roosevelt First Inaugural Address Delivered 4 March 1933</p>
<p>parallelism restatement repetition analogy</p>	<p>parallelism restatement repetition analogy</p>
<p>We are a people in a quandary about the present. We are a people in search of our future. We are a people in search of a national community. We are a people trying not only to solve the problems of the present, unemployment, inflation, but we are attempting on a larger scale to full the promise of America.</p> <p>Barbara Jordan Democratic National Convention Keynote Address Delivered 12 July 1976, New York, NY</p>	<p>There is no constitutional issue here. The command of the Constitution is plain.</p> <p>Lyndon Baines Johnson "We Shall Overcome" delivered 15 March 1965, Washington, D.C.</p>
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