

RHETORICAL FEATURES

(The purpose of a text and its author's awareness of composing for an audience.)

Persuasive intent

What is the purpose of the audio "essay" (i.e., to analyze, to interpret, to persuade, etc.)?

Informational value

What meaning or message is it attempting to convey? What is it attempting to teach us?

Entertainment value

How does the author attempt to interest or connect with the audience?

TEXTUAL FEATURES

(The strategies or tactics the author uses to convey the message)

Focused & Coherent

What is the focus of the text? Is there only one focus or more than one?

Opening

How does the text begin? Why does it begin in that manner? Does the beginning draw you in? Why/why not?

Organized

How is the text organized (chronological, by theme/topic, etc.)? Is this organization effective? Why/why not?

Closing

How does the text end? What impression does the closing leave? Is this closing effective? Why/why not?

Transitions

How does the text transition from one idea or one section to another? Is this effective? Why/why not?

AESTHETIC FEATURES

Personal voice

Describe the style of narration. Is it effective? Why/why not?

Creative

In what ways is this text creative?

Sound quality

Describe the quality of the sound. Are there places where the sound quality interferes with your understanding of the text?

Sound layers

Do the layers compliment or compete with each other? If they compete, how could this be adjusted?

"Mood" sounds

Are all of the ambient sounds relevant to the message? Do any detract? Which are the most appropriate?