

NAME _____

Sample Critical Listening Guide

CONTEXT

1. Where is the speaker located?
2. When was this text composed?
3. What do you know about the speaker's identity? (e.g., family, gender, race, age, religion, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, abilities, interests, language).
4. How does the speaker's context or identity influence the content of this text (i.e., what the speaker says)?
5. How does the speaker's context or identity influence the way the text is presented (i.e., how the speaker says it)?

AUDIENCE

1. Who is the speaker's intended audience? How do you know?
2. Does the speaker make any assumption(s) about the audience? Explain.
3. What might a listener bring to this text that could influence the way she/he interprets the content?
4. How has the identity and context of the audience (the listener or responder) impacted what the speaker is saying and how she/he says it?

PURPOSE

1. What is the speaker's purpose in the text? What is she/he hoping to achieve?
2. How does the purpose of this text impact what the speaker says and how she/he says it?
3. Does relevant and sound reasoning support the speaker's claim? Explain.
4. In what ways does the speaker acknowledge or respond to viewpoints other than hers/his own?

VALUES

1. What values does the speaker communicate? How do you know?
2. How does the speaker's identity affect her/his values?
3. To what extent does the speaker help the listener understand her/his values?

STYLE

1. How would you describe the speaker's speaking style? Explain.
2. What tone does the speaker create? Explain.
3. How does the speaker's word choice further her/his message? What are those words and phrases?
4. How does the speaker's use of figurative language impact her/his message? The tone of the message?
5. What are the advantages and disadvantages of using this medium (i.e. audio) to present this speaker's topic?