

Rhetorical Analysis Questions for "Rising Share of Americans
See Conflict between Rich and Poor" (888-899)

1. What's the overall argument/point of the essay?
2. Who is the essay's target audience? How do we know?
3. Find places in the essay where the author is using pathos, ethos, and logos appeals. Things to consider:
 - a. ~~How effectively the writer use sound reasons/reasoning and reliable evidence to advance their claims offered?~~ [Added: Find a few facts and statistics that interested or surprised you. Does their data-collecting process seem rigorous? Or to whom would it seem rigorous?]
 - b. ~~How effectively does the writer establish himself or herself as honest, wise, trustworthy, credible?~~
 - c. ~~How effectively do the emotions raised advance the claims offered?~~
 - d. [Questions Altered] Who published this article? What do we know about the author and this research center? How effectively do the writers make themselves appear trustworthy, credible, and most importantly *neutral*?
4. [Question Altered] Characterize the tone of the essay. In research like this, the authors usually strive to seem as nonpartisan and nonpolitical as possible especially when the study is about something that is so political in nature. Find specific examples of places where the authors carefully chose their words to help establish the tone of the essay.
5. [Question Altered] Obviously, this essay relies heavily on a particular appeal as opposed to a mix. How does this affect our reading of it?
6. Examine the image/s [and graphs] in the essay. Does it strengthen the essay's overall power and effectiveness? Why or why not?
7. ~~Do you feel the author has crafted an effective essay? Why or why not?~~