

Independent Reading Project #1

Non-Fiction Book

Due 10/16/12

You will analyze your book using the rhetorical web. The final project may take any format except for an essay. A visual element is necessary and creativity is encouraged. As long as the presentation covers the information below, you may choose what the end product is.

Your project should include the following:

- **Exigence:** What made the author want to write this book? What got him riled up or inspired him to spend the time to write a full-length book on his topic?
- **Audience:** Who is the author writing this book for? Who are his potential allies and opponents? Who are the stakeholders in the conversation this book and its topic belong to?
- **Purpose:** What is the author's purpose? How does he set out to achieve it? How successful is he?
- **Claim:** What is the author's claim?
- **Evidence and Reasons:** What are the main evidence and reasons used to support the claim? Give brief explanations of each and their links to the claim.
- **Organization:** How is the book organized? Explain the progression of how he presents his points. Use speech words and rhetorical strategies to help you map out how the argument is organized.
- **Appeals:** Choose one effective and one ineffective appeal and focus on analyzing them. Why did they work or not work? What was the appeal or fallacy? What were they meant to persuade you about?
- **Language:** (Some of this may overlap with Appeals and/or Organization) Give at least one example typical of the author's overall writing style. Give another example of language that you found to be particularly effective.
- **Evaluate:** Explain how this book will or will not help you with your research this year. Was it helpful or not? What did it teach you about your topic or how did it change your mind or disappoint you? What will you use from the book? How will you use what you learned to direct future research?