Synthesis Guide

Definition: A synthesis essay calls for you to both compare and contrast two texts as well as respond to a synthesis question. This requires a rigorous analysis as well as a deep comprehension of both texts.

Rhetorical Critique:

Author's use of…
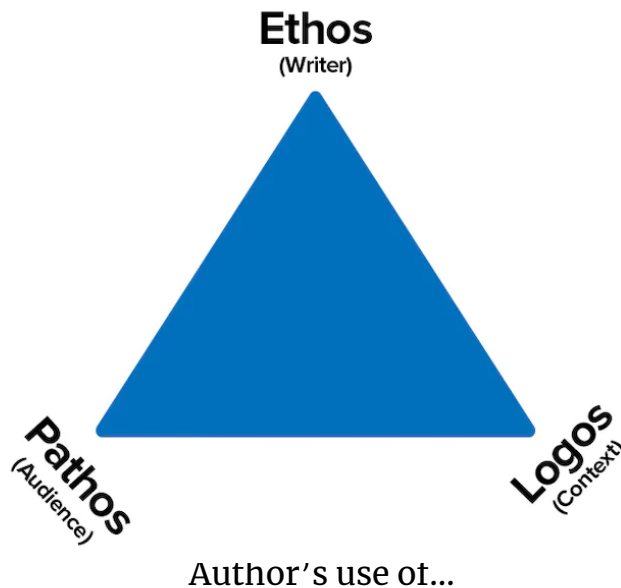
Pathos	Ethos	Logos
The audience feels an emotional connection to the writing.	The writer is credible and generates work with great style/tone.	The context of the work includes factual evidence or logical arguments.

Kairos:

Much like Ethos, Logos, and Pathos, Kairos connects the text to a specific time and place. This means that the text is relevant only to that time and place, often leaving room to critique outdated information or establishing great credibility for particularly relevant information.

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<u>Analysis Practice:</u>

The author's use of (Pathos / Ethos / Logos / Kairos) (is / is not) effective because...

Article 1:_____

_____

_____.

Article 2:_____

_____

_____.

<u>Responding to a Synthesis Question:</u>

Your professor will ask you to respond to a synthesis question. Make sure that you fully and thoroughly explain your answer. Therefore, this question will usually have several points in response.

Example: What are the primary causes of obesity?

Answer:

Reason 1: _____

Explanation:_____

_____

_____

Reason 2: _____

Explanation:_____

_____

_____

Reason 3: _____

Explanation:_____

_____

_____

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Writing Center Hours: 8:30 AM - 8:30 PM M-Th,
8:30 AM- 4:30 PM F, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM S-S
Email: okc.tutoring@okstate.edu
Phone: 405-945-3278

Compare and Contrast:

Now that you have analyzed these rhetorical features, it is important to compare and contrast the two texts with each other. What do they do similarly, and what do they do differently?

Venn Diagram

DIFFERENT   SAME   DIFFERENT