***Study guide question: What is rhetoric?***

**Read the following passage from the excerpt and answer the question that follows.**
What type of rhetorical strategy does the author employ in the passage above?

And yet words on a parchment would not be enough to deliver slaves from bondage, or provide men and women of every color and creed their full rights and obligations as citizens of the United States. What would be needed were Americans in successive generations who were willing to do their part—through protests and struggles, on the streets and in the courts, through a civil war and civil disobedience, and always at great risk—to narrow that gap between the promise of our ideals and the reality of their time.

* 1. Ethos because he is the president so he is asserting his credibility in the matters that he talks about in this speech.
	2. Pathos because providing this emotional imagery draws the reader in to the racial struggle that defines American history.
	3. Logos because he is providing reasoning for why African Americans have struggled in the past and the present.
	4. There is no rhetorical strategy used.

***Study guide question: Why do authors use rhetoric?***

Read the following passage from the excerpt and answer the question that follows.
What type of rhetorical strategy does the author employ in the passage above?

I am the son of a black man from Kenya and a white woman from Kansas. I was raised with the help of a white grandfather who survived a Depression to serve in Patton's Army during World War II and a white grandmother who worked on a bomber assembly line at Fort Leavenworth while he was overseas. I've gone to some of the best schools in America and lived in one of the world's poorest nations. I am married to a black American who carries within her the blood of slaves and slave owners—an inheritance we pass on to our two precious daughters. I have brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, uncles and cousins of every race and every hue, scattered across three continents, and for as long as I live, I will never forget that in no other country on Earth is my story even possible.

* 1. Ethos because it shows how he’s connected to both white and black worlds and that enables him to better understand America’s racial divides.
	2. Pathos because he is appealing to our emotions of family in order to help us understand his struggle.
	3. Logos because he is listing facts about his family in order to establish relationships that he will continue to use in his speech.
	4. There is no rhetorical strategy used.

***Study guide question: What are the three rhetorical strategies?***

Read the following passage from the excerpt and answer the question that follows.
What type of rhetorical strategy does the author employ in the passage above?

He is a man who served his country as a United States Marine; who has studied and lectured at some of the finest universities and seminaries in the country, and who for over 30 years has led a church that serves the community by doing God's work here on Earth—by housing the homeless, ministering to the needy, providing day care services and scholarships and prison ministries, and reaching out to those suffering from HIV/AIDS.

* 1. Ethos because he gives credibility to the pastor by listing facts of everything he has done to help people.
	2. Pathos because he is giving the pastor an image of a sacrificial man who stands up for what is right in the world.
	3. Logos because he is using facts to prove that although the minster has said hurtful things, he is still a leader.
	4. There is no rhetorical strategy used.

***Study guide question: Define the three rhetorical strategies.***

Read the following passage from the excerpt and answer the question that follows.
What type of rhetorical strategy does the author employ in the passage above?

Like other black churches, Trinity's services are full of raucous laughter and sometimes bawdy humor. They are full of dancing and clapping and screaming and shouting that may seem jarring to the untrained ear. The church contains in full the kindness and cruelty, the fierce intelligence and the shocking ignorance, the struggles and successes, the love and, yes, the bitterness and biases that make up the black experience in America.

* 1. Ethos because he is making the church famous by explaining how important it has been in his life.
	2. Pathos because he is creating imagery that builds an emotional connection to the church and shows how it embodies black life in America.
	3. Logos because he is building facts about Trinity Church and how it has built community for African Americans.
	4. There is no rhetorical strategy used.

***Study guide question: What is a logical fallacy? Be able to identify all of them.***

Is Obama’s use of rhetoric effective within his “A More Perfect Union?”

* 1. No because he demonstrates bias towards his pastor and therefore, he cannot be trusted.
	2. No because he overuses rhetorical strategies and therefore it seems as if he is not genuine.
	3. Yes because he explains how Trinity Church has made a profound impact on the people who attend it.
	4. Yes because he provides both criticisms and lauds of Pastor Wright through emotional appeal and showing his ability to judge racial lines.

***Study guide question: What is a summary? What should you include in a summary?***

Which of the following is the best summary of Obama’s speech?

* 1. Although Obama condemns Pastor Wright’s comments and how they offend Americans, he explains that his contributions outweigh the harmful things he’s said.
	2. Obama explains that due to his family’s story, he is better able to judge Pastor Wright and the things that he said.
	3. Obama is defending his pastor because many Americans believe that his comments were that of someone who hates and harms this country.
	4. Although Pastor Wright has done good things, Obama has decided to leave the church because of how his comments may affect the campaign.

***Study guide question: What is central idea?***

Which of the following is the central idea of Obama’s speech?

* 1. We will have a better America if we begin working together towards a better future.
	2. Someone’s remarks do not degrade the rest of the work they’ve done for the good of others.
	3. Imperfect people are what makes this country great.
	4. We should condemn the remarks of those who dislike this country.

***Study guide question: What is a supporting detail?***

Which of the following is the best supporting detail for the central idea of this speech?

* 1. “I have already condemned, in unequivocal terms, the statements of Reverend Wright that have caused such controversy and, in some cases, pain.”
	2. “I am the son of a black man from Kenya and a white woman from Kansas.”
	3. “This is not to say that race has not been an issue in this campaign. At various stages in the campaign, some commentators have deemed me either ‘too black’ or ‘not black enough.’”
	4. “The church contains in full the kindness and cruelty, the fierce intelligence and the shocking ignorance, the struggles and successes, the love and, yes, the bitterness and biases that make up the black experience in America.”