***Handout for Analyzing***

**PURPOSE** : the “matter” and motivation of the discourse.

What is the discourse about? What is its subject matter? What subjects and issues does the discourse address—both on the surface and deep down?

What values are at stake? What problems, questions, or conflicts does it raise? Why are the problems, questions, or conflicts it addresses important?

Why is the discourse needed now? Why does it matter? What event, occasion or other factor has prompted the discourse?

What patterns do you notice in the writing? What writing strategies does the author use? What kinds of evidence does the author provide?

***Sources Rhetorically***

**AUTHOR(S):** Who’s responsible for the discourse?

Who created this text?

What character, image, reputation, or roles does the author bring to the situation? How does the author’s background shape the text?

What voice or tone does the author use?

**AUDIENCE(S):** Who’s responding to the discourse?

Who are the intended audiences? Who are the real audiences? How might these audiences respond to the text?

How do these audiences shape the text?

What might be their reading situations? Where and why might they read it?

**TEXT**