

Synthesis argumentation

- Aristotle states that all proper arguments must include these three elements:
 - Logos
 - Ethos
 - Pathos
- They don't have to be equal, but they all three have to be present

Synthesis argumentation

- Logos
 - Logic
 - Evidence
 - Data
 - The specific pieces of information that are put together to prove the thesis
 - Data must be explained, not just given

Synthesis argumentation

- Ethos
 - Credentials of writer
 - Believability
 - General character
 - Also of sources used
 - You can “borrow” ethos

Synthesis argumentation

- Pathos
 - Human Face
 - The “people” element
 - How does this issue affect people?
 - Keeps issue from being too abstract
 - Brings it down to earth—human level

Synthesis argumentation

- Pathos
 - Too much pathos is bad argumentation
 - Emotion is powerful, but not long-lasting
 - Oprah style argumentation, not academic style
 - Many academic disciplines are very negative to pathos – be careful

Synthesis argumentation

- Successful Synthesis Argument will contain
 - Assertion/Thesis
 - Evidence
 - Analysis/Explanation
- Can be given in any combination – as long as all three elements are there

Synthesis argumentation

- Thesis alone is not enough
- Evidence should not just be given without context, meaning, explanation
- Analysis/interpretation of how evidence fits is necessary to make it **an argument**

Synthesis argumentation

- Assertion/Thesis
 - Main idea that the paragraph/section is trying to show
 - Needs to be stated clearly
 - Needs to be statement that **CAN** be proven

Schizophrenia has been connected to chemical imbalances in the brain.

Synthesis argumentation

- Evidence
 - **SHOULD** come from multiple sources
 - Evidence from just **ONE** source can lead to only summarizing source's arguments
 - Can be quoted or paraphrased
 - Should **ALWAYS** be cited

Synthesis argumentation

- Analysis/Explanation
 - This is where the actual synthesis occurs
 - Explanation of how evidence supports thesis/assertion
 - Also how it fits into overall essay argument
 - Don't assume connections are obvious to reader just because they are to you

Synthesis argumentation

- In short, Synthesis essays
 - Use outside sources for the evidence
 - Use multiple sources for evidence when possible
 - Use specific information from sources for **YOUR** arguments, not just summarize source's entire argument