**SOAPSTONE**

**Analyzing the Rhetorical Situation**

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| **Subject**   * Literally, what is the text about? |  |
| **Occasion**   * Time * Place * People * Events |  |
| **Audience**   * Basic identifying features (race, age, education, etc.) * Knowledge * Attitudes * Beliefs |  |
| **Purpose**   * Infinitive phrase (to + strong verb + clarifying explanation) |  |
| **Speaker**   * How does the speaker wish to be perceived? * What does the speaker assume about the audience? * What biases does the speaker hold? * What aspects of the speaker’s identity may influence the way he/she perceives the topic? |  |
| **Tone**   * Remember that good authors use more than one tone! |  |

***Thesis statement*** *(1-2 sentences maximum bringing together all the elements of the rhetorical situation)*

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