**SOAPSTONE**

**Analyzing the Rhetorical Situation**

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| **Subject*** Literally, what is the text about?
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| **Occasion*** Time
* Place
* People
* Events
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| **Audience*** Basic identifying features (race, age, education, etc.)
* Knowledge
* Attitudes
* Beliefs
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| **Purpose*** Infinitive phrase (to + strong verb + clarifying explanation)
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| **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?
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| **Tone*** Remember that good authors use more than one tone!
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***Thesis statement*** *(1-2 sentences maximum bringing together all the elements of the rhetorical situation)*

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