

Name: _____

MNEMONICS (a system to improve memory)

SOAPS is a strategy for analyzing a text or speech. Identify each of the following early on, and you'll be halfway to understanding the passage. Figuring these out will help you determine the author's motivation and goal.

Subject
Occasion
Audience
Purpose
Speaker

SOLIDD also helps in analyzing a text. Looking for these elements in the text will help you remember what to write about when you are told to analyze a passage. If you don't notice something notable about one of the categories, move on and discuss something else. Don't force what isn't there.

Syntax
Organization
Language
Images
Diction
Details

For developing your own argument in an essay or speech, use TRACE:

Take a position
Refute the opposition
Argue your case
Comment on your argument (provide support)
Explain why it's important

Remember: essays should go *not* by number of paragraphs, but number of ideas!!