

Revision Worksheet

- Adding (Torres) after every quote

- After "the richest 10% produce 40% of the country's global warming pollution." I added a sentence about how this is not only a logical appeal, but also an emotional one.

- After I talked about the call to action, I decided not to put anything about ethos because call to action and ethos go hand in hand/are similar and I didn't want saying something about ethos take away from the call to action. I also wasn't too sure how to integrate it into my essay without having to rewrite the whole paragraph.

- I added more to my conclusion because it wasn't very good. I talked more about the other rhetorical strategies the author used and not just call to action.

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Comp 1

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In the article, “Think this summer is bad? It might be the best one you and I will ever see,” Emile P. Torres uses many rhetorical strategies to inform her audience of the dangers of global warming. Using a clear call to action the author ignites the audience to stand up for future generations; through word choice the audience sees the importance of this topic to the Torres. She also uses logos to seem credible to the audience and pathos to help relate to her readers. Throughout her whole article, Torres uses lots of facts from credible sources to inform her audience of the lasting effects of climate change. In her opening paragraph she explains how this summer broke many high temperature records citing a NASA report titled “NASA Clocks July 2023 as Hottest Month on Record Ever Since 1880.” Citing such a credible source as NASA helps her audience trust her knowledge on the topic and citing them in the first line of her article sets a knowledgeable tone for the rest of the article. She quotes Yogi Hendlin, an environmental philosopher, “The hottest summer so far on record will be one of the coolest and most stable of all summers between now and the end of the century.” (Torres) This quote definitely lets the audience see the negative effects global warming has on the earth and how it will directly affect them. Torres continues by informing her audience on some of the consequences the earth will face in the coming years as global warming worsens, such as “extreme meteorological events,” (Torres) people losing their homes, loved ones, and an “estimate that 1 billion people will likely die because of climate change.” (Torres) These are very scary facts and Torres not only uses them to have a logos appeal, but also to have a pathos appeal.

Torres uses pathos to scare her audience and help them understand the severity of climate change. In her article, she talks a lot about the future generations and what they will

have to deal with because of our decisions. One prime example of this is when she says, “A child born today will turn 65 in 2088, at which point hundreds of millions of people will have already died prematurely because of climate change. If that child is one of the lucky few born to wealthy parents in an affluent country and avoids such a fate, they’ll still have to endure the psychological trauma of reading the news every day.”(Torres) The first sentence of this quote is scary enough, but with her talking about the psychological trauma that could occur, the audience can’t help but be fearful of the future and the ones in their family that will have to go through these events. At this point in her article, she tells the reader that some people believe the world deserves all the consequences they will receive because they are irresponsible. The reader is experiencing a lot of worry and stress because they don’t realize how much harm they are individually causing the planet. However, Torres helps ease some of the reader's stress by informing them that studies have shown “the richest 10% produce 40% of the country’s global warming pollution.”(Torres) Not only is she appealing to the logical sense of the reader through statistics, she is also appealing to the emotional side with the reassurance that this problem is not completely on them and the rich are the biggest contributors which, to the reader, is unfair. Torres also asks a lot of rhetorical questions, “Are we ready for this? Is anyone prepared for what’s coming?”(Torres) These questions make the reader really sit and think about if they are ready to live in a changed world. Torres is asking these questions with the intent that their answer is no, while this does have an effect on the reader's emotions it also lets the reader see if they are not ready, then they must do something to change the course of the earth. Even though the reader already knows that they are not the major contributor to global warming, they realize how unfair it is for the real major contributors do not take responsibility. Her call to action is to get justice for this “crime against humanity,”(Torres) however, Torres realizes that “there’s nothing much you or I can do about it.”(Torres) Her saying that there is not much the reader can do fuels their desire for justice and Torres’s hope is that one of her readers will be fueled up enough to start a movement of change. She knows that her readers do not

want to feel helpless when it comes to their home, she knows that the reader wants some say in what their future will look like and how their future children and grandchildren will live. By saying “If you and I live long enough, we may witness 2 billion people displaced by climate change and another 1 billion or more die prematurely from causes related to global warming.”(Torres) Torres knows that she is igniting their fire even more because she understands that her readers do not want to experience or witness the events that she describes and she wants them to stand up for their generation and force change. She also clearly uses another combination of logos and pathos by stating unsettling statistics.

Finally, through Torres’s word choice the audience is able to see the severity and importance of this ongoing problem. “Another paper published this year estimates that 1 billion – with a “b” – people will likely die because of climate change within the next century.”(Torres) Focusing in on “– with a “b” –,”(Torres) Torres clearly wants the audience to see that this is not a little problem that will only affect some of the world, but it will affect everyone. She continues to talk about the catastrophic death numbers that are predicted by saying “Imagine reading that “another 1 million people have died this month because of climate catastrophes, or that “another 20 millions have been forced to relocate the past year” due to extreme weather events and rising sea levels.”(Torres) Having the audience imagine these headlines forces them to imagine something they know they don’t want to live through, something they want to prevent if they can. It also shows the importance of this ongoing problem and forces them to think about all the ways the world will change because of global warming.

Overall, Torres wrote a well informed and urging article for the reader to see the severity of global warming and the impacts it can and will make on the world. She adequately uses a call to action to let her readers see that the problem is not mainly average citizens, but the millionaires of the world who only care about themselves and their money. She uses pathos and logos to create an effective argument based on facts and logic, and persuade the reader to care about global warming and to bring awareness to it. Finally, she uses word choice to convey the

urgency and severity of this problem, all of these creating a successful article to inform her audience about global warming.

Work Cited

Torres, É. P. (2023). Think this summer was bad? it might be the best one you and I will ever see. Retrieved from

<https://www.salon.com/2023/09/23/think-this-summer-was-bad-it-might-be-the-best-one-you-and-i-will-ever-see/>