

"use of rhetorical techniques" and "convey her message" are both VAGUE. Be specific. Which specific rhetorical choices does the speaker make? And WHAT specifically is her message about Reagan's leadership?

"a strong value among many Americans" is phrasing that is self-evident—a "duh" statement and doesn't add anything to the claim. "and this is as well used" is clunky phrasing. Re-write this way: In her introduction, Thatcher appeals to the average American's sense of patriotism in order to \_\_\_\_\_. (Answer the question: HOW does she make that appeal? And then answer WHY does she make that appeal? —to complete the line of reasoning in your analysis.

This is the strongest part of your analysis: the allusion to Bennett and its purpose. You do a fine job here of integrating quotes to support your claim.

Use better transitional phrasing. A good transition may link one idea that the speaker presents to the next idea that you will now discuss.

Avoid too much quoting. Use direct quotes sparingly—and use only a short phrase as a quote that you blend into your own sentence. The short quote should only be used to illustrate a point that you are making about a rhetorical choice the speaker has made. You MUST explain what the speaker says in your own words. And then explain in your own words what the speaker's purpose is in terms of how it builds her argument/overall message.

Margaret Thatcher, the former Prime Minister of Great Britain, delivered an eulogy to the American people in honor of United States President Ronald Reagan, with whom she had worked closely. She is giving this speech a few after the end of the cold war and describing how his leadership brought an end to the Cold War and restored peace throughout the globe. Margaret Thatcher's use of rhetorical techniques allows her to convey her message about President Reagan's leadership during the cold war relatively clear.

In her introduction, she is aiming to appeal to the average American's sense of patriotism, a strong value among many Americans, and this is as well used to grab the reader or listener's attention. She says "we have lost a great president, a great American, and a great man..." The appeal to patriotism of the statement is used to grab The attention of the reader or listener by talking highly about the situation at hand and his status as a strong leader in United States history. By using parallel structure, Thatcher creates an example of antithesis that aims to show how American people thought about his leadership and the fact that he was not only a great citizen but his persona as a man was desirable. Further along in her eulogy, she alludes to a quote by Arnold Bennett that talks about Reagan style of leadership by saying, "the great cause of cheering us all up." Her allusion is aimed to show Reagan's method of the leadership of the American people during this time. This is aimed to create a reminiscent memory of Reagan's "freshness and optimism", his "grace under pressure", and his "clear ideas" as the leader of the United States.

In the fifth paragraph she begins talking about what people thought to be true the future during his time in the presidency. "Others are only limits to growth" and "Others hoped, at best, for an uneasy cohabitation with the Soviet Union" these quotes are aimed to demonstrate the doubt of the American people at this time; however, she then follows up with a claim of fact for each point that this forethought of the American people was false and he overcame the odds with his leadership and achieved an outcome that was positive for the American people: "He transformed a stagnant economy into an engine of opportunity" and "He won the cold war, not only without firing a shot, but also by inviting enemies out of their fortress and turning them into friends". In the last paragraph of Thatcher's eulogy, she is again using a claim of value to appeal to American patriotism to show how President Reagan lead for the good of the country. She proves to be true by saying "President Reagan carried the American people with him in his great endeavors..." and "He and they loved America and what it stands for freedom and opportunity for ordinary people." President Reagan "carrying the American people with him" and by "loving America" led during this time for the good of the country and not just for his political position.

President Reagan's leadership, leading to the end of the cold war, was clearly exemplified by Margaret Thatcher's examples in her eulogy which she gave after President Reagan's death. She accomplishes this by clearly stating elements of rhetorical analysis to support her thesis.

avoid -ing form of verb; use simple present tense: She gives this speech...and describes...

avoid repeating phrases in the same sentence: Cold War = 3x / also be consistent with capitalization

understand that this is a speech—therefore the audience is not "the reader". The audience is specifically the American people, those mourning the death of Reagan, and the global community—as she is herself a world leader.

avoid the use of too many terms: parallelism, antithesis...this is too focused on the technical and not getting to the heart of what Thatcher is conveying. Explain what she is actually saying first—don't just jump into a list of terms that you've identified.

wordy phrasing. use stronger verbs that are more precise: She characterizes...She describes...She elucidates...

Avoid "These quotes...". Make a claim about what she says in your own words, then point out some choices she makes in wording and explain its intended effect/purpose.

awkward or redundant phrasing

TOTAL SCORE = 3 (out of 6)

Scoring Breakdown & Rationale

1/1 - Thesis Point Earned

You would earn the thesis point, but with the way your intro and thesis are written, the essay so far wouldn't earn the sophistication point. Try to add more of your own understanding of the historical context (2004) as a hook in your intro. It's the post 9/11 world. There's a global war on terror. And Reagan's death serves as a reminder here for how American leadership can steer the world in the right direction and can help the world overcome great challenges. Thatcher isn't just celebrating Reagan's life; she is also conveying a bigger message about what Americans value and how those values have to be remembered, as embodied by Reagan.

2/4 - Evidence and Commentary

The dividing line on the rubric is between the 2 and the 3. Essays that earn 3-4 points for evidence and commentary must have at least one line of reasoning completely followed through without "faulty" reasoning. As the rubric states: 2 points is awarded for essays that "explain how some of the evidence relates to the student's argument, but no line of reasoning is established, or the line of reasoning is faulty." Decision scoring guidelines: "May contain simplistic, inaccurate or repetitive explanations that don't strengthen the argument...May make one point well...but do not adequately support more than one claim." How to improve this score: SHOW that you understand WHAT the speaker is saying by making a claim in each body paragraph about a specific point that she is making. But you have to phrase this in your own words. Then get into the analysis. Don't get bogged down by rhetorical terms. Just explain the purpose of her message and what effect some of her deliberate choices are towards that purpose. Notice that you don't really interpret what she says. You go right into a technical "analysis"—but you pile it on without truly explaining how these choices link back to her overall message.

0/1 - Sophistication Point Not Earned

Sophistication is a very difficult point to earn. You need to work on fixing the clunkiness in your language (use stronger verbs that show a clear purpose; avoid wordiness and trim your language. Sophistication can also be earned if in fact your analysis of the text shows a strong grasp on the rhetorical situation (what Thatcher is saying, why she is saying it, given the historical context and given a clear understanding of the audience—the American public in 2004).