

**Excerpts from George W. Bush's Inauguration Speech
January, 2001**

Directions: These paragraphs are taken from the speech made by George W. Bush on the day he became the 43rd President of the United States. Look at the shaded parts and see if you can determine what speaker's tools he used.

LOOK AT THE INDIVIDUAL WORDS IN THIS PARAGRAPH THAT ARE SHADED. WHAT RELATIONSHIP EXISTS BETWEEN PAIRS OF WORDS? WHAT SPEAKER'S TOOL IS BEING USED? WHY WOULD A SPEAKER DO THIS?

We have a place, all of us, in a long story. A story we **continue**, but whose **end** we will not see. It is the story of a new world that became a friend and **liberator** of the old, a story of a **slave-holding** society that became a servant of **freedom**, the story of a power that went into the world to protect but not possess, **to defend** but not to **conquer**. It is the American story. A story of flawed and fallible people, united across the generations by **grand and enduring** ideals. The grandest of these ideals is an unfolding American promise that everyone belongs, that everyone deserves a chance, that no insignificant person was ever born. Americans are called upon to enact this promise in our lives and in our laws; and though our nation has sometimes halted, and sometimes delayed, we must follow no other course. **WHAT WORD WAS REPEATED 3 TIMES FOR EMPHASIS?**

LOOK AT THE COMPARISONS MADE IN THIS PARAGRAPH. DECIDE WHAT TWO THINGS ARE BEING COMPARED AND WHAT SPEAKER'S TOOL IS BEING USED. WHY WOULD A SPEAKER DO THIS?

Through much of the last century, America's **faith in freedom and democracy** was a **rock in a raging sea**. Now **it is a seed upon the wind**, taking root in many nations. Our democratic faith is more than the creed of our country, it is the inborn hope of our humanity, an ideal we carry but do not own, a trust we bear and pass along; and even after nearly 225 years, we have a long way yet to travel.

LOOK AT THE INDIVIDUAL WORDS HIGHLIGHTED IN THIS PARAGRAPH. WHAT IS THE SPEAKER'S TOOL BEING USED AND WHY?

Today, we affirm a new **commitment** to live out our nation's promise through **civility, courage, compassion and character**. America, at its best, matches a **commitment** to principle with a concern for civility.

LOOK AT THE HIGHLIGHTED WORDS IN THIS PARAGRAPH. WHAT SPEAKER'S TOOLS ARE BEING USED? WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF USING THESE TOOLS?

Many in our country do not know the **pain of poverty**, but we can listen to those who do. I can pledge our nation to a goal, "**When we see that wounded traveler on the road to Jericho, we will not pass to the other side.**"

Speaker's Tools Worksheet

Each of the following is from the speech by Sojourner Truth or George W. Bush's complete inaugural speech. Use the words listed below and your notes from today to decide what tool applies to each phrase or sentence:

_____ 1. America's faith in freedom and democracy was a rock in a raging sea.

_____ 2. ...defend, but not to conquer; ...slave-holding society that became a servant of freedom.

_____ 3. ...civility, courage, compassion and character

_____ 4. Ain't I a woman?

_____ 5. ...citizens. Citizens, not spectators, Citizens, not subjects. Responsible citizens.....

_____ 6. Obligated to you for hearing me.....

WORD BANK: metaphor, repetition, informal language, alliteration, opposites

Question of the Day #3:

Why would a speaker use tools such as metaphors, repetition, slang, formal language, careful word choice, etc. when writing and delivering a speech?

Ain't I A Woman?

By

Sojourner Truth

Directions: Listen as your teacher reads this speech made in 1851 to the Women's Convention in Akron, Ohio concerning Women's rights. Look at the shaded parts and use your notes. Identify what speaker's tools Sojourner Truth used. Decide why she might have used such tools when making this speech.

Well, children, where there is so much racket there must be something out of kilter. I think that 'twixt the Negroes of the South and the women at the North, all talking about rights, the white men will be in a fix pretty soon. But what's all this here talking about?

That man over there says that women need to be helped into carriages, and lifted over ditches, and to have the best place everywhere. Nobody ever helps me into carriages, or over mud-puddles, or gives me any best place! And ain't I a woman? Look at me! Look at my arm! I have ploughed and planted, and gathered into barns, and no man could head me! And ain't I a woman? I could work as much and eat as much as a man - when I could get it - and bear the lash as well! And ain't I a woman? I have borne thirteen children, and seen most all sold off to slavery, and when I cried out with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me! And ain't I a woman?

Then they talk about this thing in the head; what's this they call it? [member of audience whispers, "intellect"] That's it, honey. What's that got to do with women's rights or Negroes' rights? If my cup won't hold but a pint, and yours holds a quart, wouldn't you be mean not to let me have my little half measure full?

Then that little man in black there, he says women can't have as much rights as men, 'cause Christ wasn't a woman! Where did your Christ come from? Where did your Christ come from? From God and a woman! Man had nothing to do with Him.

If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again! And now they is asking to do it, the men better let them. Obligated to you for hearing me, and now old Sojourner ain't got nothing more to say.

Teacher Answer Key for this file:

George W. Bush's speech

-Paragraph 1 uses opposite words in the same sentence in order to create an effect of two very different things or extremes. The word AMERICAN is repeated 3 times for emphasis.

-Paragraph 2 uses metaphors in order to compare America's faith in freedom and democracy to a rock in a raging sea. He also compares America's faith in freedom and democracy to a seed in the wind that will take root. He does this to indicate how stable and secure our faith in freedom and democracy is. Through this metaphor he also indicates that this faith will grow and flourish in other nations.

-Paragraph 3 uses the speaker's tool of alliteration/repetition in order to create a memorable effect and to help listeners remember the words he will talk about.

-Paragraph 4 makes an analogy of the Biblical story of the Good Samaritan in order to assure the people listening that the government will help. Some alliteration is also included.

Sojourner Truth's speech

- Paragraph 1 includes informal language and slang.
- Paragraph 2 includes repetition and slang.
- Paragraph 3 includes informal language and an analogy.
- Paragraph 4 includes informal language.
- Paragraph 5 includes informal language.
- Paragraph 6 includes informal language.

Sojourner Truth used informal language in her speech because she was uneducated. She included repetition for an effect, asking over and over again, Ain't I a Woman? She made the analogy to help people see the point she was trying to make.

Speaker's Tools Worksheet

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|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Metaphor | 4. Slang, informal |
| 2. Opposite Words | 5. Repetition |
| 3. Alliteration | 6. Informal language |