

Rogerian Notes

Introduction – Writer introduces issue and shows that opponent's position is valid and is understood by restating it.

Goals – to show an opposing audience that you get where they are coming from. Building their ethos.

Contexts and validity of the opponent's position – Writer shows the contexts and under what conditions the opponent's position may be valid or reasonable. Note that the opponent is never made to feel completely wrong.

Goal- show where certain situations and places the opponent is correct.

Writer's position or thesis- The writer states his/her own position including the contexts in which it is valid.

Goal – create a thesis that incorporates some elements from both sides.

Complimentary Positions- The writer states how the opponent's position would benefit if the opponent were to adopt the elements of the writer's position. An attempt is made to show that the two positions compliment each other and each supplies what the other lacks.

Goal – to show how thesis benefits all.