**Instructions:** Use the guiding questions in this worksheet to help you take notes on the speech you have selected. You should use the information in the speech itself along with general information you find on the Internet to answer the questions.

Keep in mind that whatever speech you choose for this assignment, you will be analyzing that same speech for the next few weeks and eventually writing your Rhetorical Analysis about that speech. Be sure you picked one you’re willing to read many times and study in depth!

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| FIRST READING | |
| **Title of the Speech: Commencement Address at Liberty University**  **Author (Speaker): President Donald Trump**  **Date the speech was given: May 13, 2017** | |
| **Initial Impressions:** How did you initially feel after reading the speech? Why do you think you felt that way? | I felt inspired and patriotic, emphasizing the values of America. The blend of both humor with serious advice created a motivating tone. |
| **Quality of Argument:** Does the speaker make any good points? What are they? Do they make any poor points? What are they? | He makes strong points by emphasizing how perseverance, faith, and individual responsibilities are important. Hence encouraging graduates to follow their convictions rather than their critics. |
| **Further Study:** Are there any terms, situations, descriptions, etc. the speaker uses that you should research or study? What are they? | The historical context of Liberty University and Jerry Falwell Sr. Events and policies that Trump references. |

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| RHETORICAL SITUATION | *Notes: (Be sure to include links to any sources you use to find out background information. You may need to include them on your references page.)* |
| **Author/Speaker:** When and where did they live? What are significant events from their life? | Donald Trump ( June 14, 1946 - present) Born in Queens, New York, Donald is a television personality and a businessman who became the 45th president of the United States of America. |
| **Audience:** Who was the speech for? Was there more than one audience (intended, unintended)? What are the characteristics of this group? Do they all share a similar nationality or job? Or are they very diverse? | * The graduating class of Liberty University. * Parents * Faculty * The general public. |
| **Purpose:** Why did they give the speech? What does the author/speaker want to accomplish? What do they want the audience to think, feel, and/or do? | Tramp has multiple purposes:   * Inspire and motivate graduates. * Instill a sense of patriotism, faith, and perseverance. |
| **Tone:** What is the author/speaker’s tone? Are they argumentative, passionate, reverent, objective, funny, serious, and/or a combination of these? | The author uses a combination of motivation and humor. |
| **Time/Setting:** Where and when was the speech given? What significant things were going on in the world or near this place that may have influenced the speech? | This happened at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia, in May 2017. |
| **Stance:** How does the author/speaker feel about the issue they’re discussing? What/who is the opposition? How do they frame the opposing side? How do they frame their side? Are they fair/balanced? Or very one-sided? | Trump is one-sided, by emphasizing his and his fans’ viewpoints. He comes out as a partiote and in support of traditional values. |

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| RHETORICAL APPEALS | Notes: |
| **Character & credibility (ethos):** How does the author demonstrate their own credibility (credentials, personal experience, etc.)? What other sources does the author use to boost their credibility (respected leaders, research, statistics, etc.)? | Trump talks about his presidency and his success for credibility. He appreciates the support of Liberty University's success, in favor of boosting his own ethos. |
| **Emotion and values (pathos):** How does the author appeal to the values and emotions of the audience? Do they use motivating emotions like fear or compassion? Do they try to identify with the audience (e.g. I’m just like you…)? Do they use humor or vivid details? | Trump appeals to emotions by talking about patriotism, faith, and family. He uses humor to connect with the audience and also references shared values including; hard work, and perseverance as a point of unity and pride. |
| **Logic and structure (logos):** Does the author use a clear structure (first/second/third)? Does the author use a set of guiding questions or principles? Does the author use repetition of key words or phrases for emphasis? Does the author give evidence to support their points, or do they simply make claims and give opinions without any references, examples, etc.? | Trump uses a clear structure, starting from congratulating the graduates then to discussing other themes of perseverance and faith. He uses repetition of phrases like “never give up” to make points stronger. He also supports his claims with examples from his own life. |