**key concepts template**

Title of talk: We need nuclear power to solve climate change.

Name of speaker: Joe Lassiter

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **key terms (7-10)** | CO2 Emission Forecasting, Analysis of Country Energy Choices, Concept of Climate Budget, The "Chindia" Test, Identification of Coal Plants' Impact, Highlighting the Scale of Urbanization, Role of Renewables, New Nuclear Potential, Utility-scale Solar with Natural Gas |
| **key methods, systems, processes, etc.** | United States Energy Information Agency's assessments  Comparison of energy resources in China, India, the USA, etc.  Calculating the impact of every coal plant on the environment  Set of criteria to determine if a technology is viable for China and India  Measurement of coal plants' long-term environmental impact  China's urban growth strategy versus rural electrification  Comparison of coal, nuclear, hydro, and renewables in the global energy mix  Exploration of next-gen nuclear technology  Potential backup for solar energy |

**rhetorical analysis template**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **examples from the talk (identify at least 5)** | **ethos** | **pathos** | **logos** |
| It's easy to forget that last night, one billion people went to sleep without access to electricity. |  | √ |  |
| This is the United States Energy Information Agency's assessment of what will happen if the countries implement their climate commitments in Paris between now and 2040. |  |  | √ |
| The unfortunate thing is that now, as we look at the independent analyses of what those climate treaties are liable to yield, the magnitude of the problem before us becomes apparent. | √ |  |  |
| China's building 800 gigawatts of coal... they're doing that knowing the costs better than any other country. |  |  | √ |
| Right now, we're waiting for a miracle. |  | √ |  |
| But the magnitude of the problem is something we need to appreciate. |  | √ |  |
| We've been working on this problem for 25 years, since Rio, the Kyoto Protocols. | √ |  |  |

**evaluation template**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **evaluation of proposed solution(s)** | |
| **What are the speaker’s assumptions?**  *(i.e., What does the speaker believe is true regarding the problem and their proposed solution?)* | Most of the growth in carbon dioxide emissions in the world comes from developing countries.  China's heavy reliance on coal is mainly due to its economic strategy and fewer energy substitutes.  If given the opportunity, new nuclear technology may be a feasible solution.  Chindia testing is crucial for developing feasible and scalable solutions for China and India. |
| **Do you criticise the speaker’s assumptions or their proposed solution (s)?** | **Political**:  The spokesperson believes that the commitments made by countries under the Paris Treaty are sincere. Given the history of international politics, governments may still need to fulfil or fully fulfil these commitments, leading to a gap between promises and actions.  **Social:**  Overreliance on new nuclear energy as the primary solution may lead to social resistance due to public fear and stigma of atomic energy, especially after events like the Fukushima disaster.  **Economy:**  Considering the high costs and potential cost overruns of nuclear projects, relying on new atomic technologies still in development may pose economic risks. |