# **Conflicting Perspectives Assessment**

**Step 1:** **Review the Prompt**

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| Plan, write, and deliver a persuasive speech based on a topic or issue you feel strongly about. Your speech will use at least two rhetorical devices and two rhetorical appeals. It will also include factual, researched information in MLA format. |

**Step 2: Outline and Develop Rough Draft**

Outline and develop the rough draft of your speech. You will not submit these for credit, but they will help you revise and edit your final draft.

**Step 3: Final Speech**

Paste the completed final draft of your speech and the Works Cited Page in the space below. Remember to use proper MLA formatting throughout your document.

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| **Speech Final Draft and Works Cited Page** | Wake up one day and discover your city is blanketed in a layer of smog, your tap water is undrinkable, and your electricity turned off due to the recklessness of the fossil fuel plant breaking down at last. Sounds far-fetched and dystopian? It's a reality that's unfolding a day at a time. Now is the time for a renewable energy revolution, not tomorrow or next year. We need to aggressively transition away from relying on fossil fuels and use the green alternatives like solar, wind, and hydropower.  The International Energy Agency indicates that "renewable power capacity additions set a new record in 2023" and will keep climbing as the cost declines (IEA). Cleaner energy is no longer a fantasy–it's practical and cost-effective. But critics will say it's too pricey and not reliable. But that's not the case at all. In a study conducted by Lazard in 2023, we find that it's already cost-effective in many areas to use solar and wind power compared to using fossil fuels. Cost is no longer the argument.  Aside from economics, we need to think about the moral obligation we have to future generations. Do we desire to leave them a planet filled with climate catastrophes and wars over resources, or do we want to go down in history as the generation that acted boldly? If we stay on the path we are heading, global warming will increase by more than 2 degrees Celsius, causing irreparable harm. That's not sci-fi—that's the scientific consensus of NASA and the IPCC.  Skeptics say that more jobs are created by fossil fuels compared to renewables. But the numbers tell a different story. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that the two fastest-growing occupations between now and the year 2031 are wind turbine service technicians and solar panel installers (BLS). Transition doesn’t imply a job loss but implies a job evolution.  What do we do, then? Demand the legislation to support renewable energy research and infrastructure, urge your towns and cities to use solar and wind power, and advocate building codes requiring clean energy. This is not a green issue, it's a moral issue. We already possess the tools, the technology, and the knowledge we need. Now we need the will.  Let's become the change-makers. Let's not delay until it's too late.  International Energy Agency. Renewables 2023: Analysis and Forecast to 2028, IEA, Jan. 2024, [www.iea.org/reports/renewables-2023](http://www.iea.org/reports/renewables-2023).  Lazard. Levelized Cost of Energy, Storage, and Hydrogen, Lazard, Apr. 2023, [www.lazard.com/perspective/lcoe2023](http://www.lazard.com/perspective/lcoe2023).  U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Occupational Outlook Handbook, BLS, 2024, [www.bls.gov/ooh](http://www.bls.gov/ooh).  NASA. Climate Change: How Do We Know?, NASA, 2024, <https://climate.nasa.gov/evidence> |

**Step 4: Reflection**

Reflect on your writing process using the chart below. Respond in complete sentences.

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| **Rhetorical Appeal #1** | *Appeal: Logos*  *Example: "A study by Lazard in 2023 revealed that the cost of solar and wind power is already lower than fossil fuels in many regions."*  *Effectiveness: This added to the strength of my argument by utilizing logical evidence directly refuting one typical counterargument regarding the affordability of renewables.* |
| **Rhetorical Appeal #2** | *Appeal: Pathos*  *Example: "Do we want to hand them a planet plagued by climate disasters and resource wars?"*  *Effectiveness: This emotional appeal directly tied the cause back to the sense of morality of the audience and future accountability, making the message more effective and pressing.* |
| **Rhetorical Device #1** | *Device: Hypophora*  *Example: "Do we want to hand them a planet plagued by climate disasters... Or do we want to be remembered as the generation that took bold action?"*  *Effectiveness: This device helped guide the audience’s thinking and allowed me to frame the issue in a way that aligned with my argument.* |
| **Rhetorical Device #2** | *Device: Repetition*  *Example: "We must act decisively... We have the tools... We need the will."*  *Effectiveness: Repetition reinforced my message and made the call to action more memorable and persuasive.* |

# **Conflicting Perspectives Rubric**

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|  | **On Target** | **Almost There** | **Needs Improvement** |
| **Speech Final Draft**  **(40 points)** | **40-32 points**   * The speech has an introduction, body, and conclusion that are clearly organized and easily discernible. * The body introduces at least one strong counterclaim and effectively refutes or addresses the counterclaim. * The body thoughtfully develops, supports, and defends the ideas introduced in the thesis. * Ideas in the speech flow logically through the skilled use of transitions. * Support is properly cited and well-researched with credible sources. * Rhetoric is appropriately and effectively used throughout the speech. * Appropriate signal words and phrases are used to incorporate evidence. | **31-24 points**   * The speech has an introduction, body, and conclusion that are mostly organized. * The body introduces at least one counterclaim and attempts to refute or address the counterclaim. * The body attempts to develop, support, and defend the ideas introduced in the thesis. * Ideas in the speech mostly flow through the use of transitions. * Support is missing citations or has questionable sources. * Rhetoric is used throughout the speech but may not be appropriate or effective. * There is an attempt at the use of signal words and phrases to incorporate evidence. | **23-0 points**   * The speech may be missing an introduction, body, and/or a conclusion. * Speech may be missing a claim, counterclaim, or both. * The body may introduce off-topic or unrelated support for the ideas introduced in the thesis. * Ideas in the speech may not flow due to a lack of transitions. * Support for the thesis is missing. * Rhetoric is missing. * There is no attempt to use signal words to incorporate evidence. |
| **Speech Audio**  **(25 points)** | **25-20 points**   * The speaker uses effective pacing, pronunciation, and volume. * The speaker is clear and easy to hear. | **19-15 points**   * The speaker's pacing, pronunciation, or volume is inconsistent but does not detract from the overall speech. * The speaker is mostly clear and easy to hear. | **14-0 points**   * The speaker's pacing, pronunciation, and/or volume detracts from the speech. * The speaker is not speaking clearly or is difficult to hear. |
| **MLA Formatting and Works Cited Page**  **(15 points)** | **15-12 points**   * MLA formatting is present and correct throughout the entire speech. * The Works Cited page is correctly formatted and corresponds to all in-text citations. | **11-9 points**   * MLA formatting is mostly present and correct throughout the entire speech. * There is an attempt at a properly formatted Works Cited page. | **8-0 points**   * MLA formatting may be missing throughout the speech. * The Works Cited page is formatted incorrectly, or the Works Cited page may be missing. |
| **Reflection**  **(10 points)** | **10-8 points**   * The writer clearly and correctly identifies two used rhetorical devices and two rhetorical appeals used within their speech. * The writer thoroughly explains the effectiveness of the appeals and devices. * All responses are written in complete sentences. | **7-6 points**   * The writer identifies two rhetorical devices and two rhetorical appeals that they attempted to use in their speech, but rhetoric may be unclear or incorrect in the example(s) provided. * The writer mostly explains the use of appeals and devices. * Responses are mostly written in complete sentences. | **5-0 points**   * The writer does not identify rhetorical devices and/or appeals used in the speech. * The writer does not explain the effectiveness of the appeals and/or devices. |
| **Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics**  **(10 points)** | **10-8 points**   * Standard grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure rules are followed with minimal errors. | **7-6 points**   * Standard grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure rules are followed with some errors that do not impede readability. | **5-0 points**   * Standard grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure rules are not followed, and this affects readability. |