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Rhetorical Précis

In the excerpts of the speech "The Ballot or the Bullet," Malcolm X argues that the black community of America should rise up and overtake its government, or else their oppression will continue to drag on and worsen. Malcolm X uses logos to show that the American government is forcing African Americans to endure hardships that they need not go through by stating, "If the late President Kennedy could get together with Khrushchev and exchange some wheat, we certainly have more in common with each other than Kennedy and Khrushchev had with each other" (X 1). The motives behind Malcolm X's speech for the African American community of America, is the hope that they will rise up and rebel with him against the American government. Malcolm X's intended audience is the African American community of America, whom he positions himself with by using vocabulary such as, "we," to imply that they as a whole must refuse to give up their "God-given" (X 4) human rights.

Response Paragraph

Malcolm X uses logos and pathos in his speech, "The Ballot or the Bullet," to get the attention of the African American community of the United States in order to gain more support and draw blame towards the American government. An example of Malcolm X using pathos in his speech is when he states "If they draft you, they send you to Korea and make you face 800