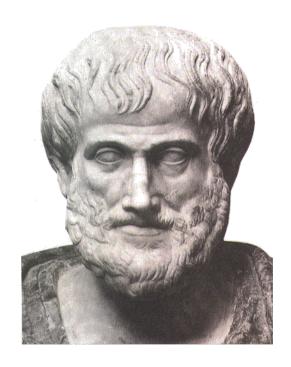
Aristotle on Pisteis

- A pistis is a "proof," an element that serves as a support for or a demonstration of a claim.
 - singular is pistis
 - plural is pisteis



Two Categories, Generally:

1. "Artistic" or "Entechnic" or Proofs:

Greek word is "entekhnikē."

These originate from the speaker/writer.

They are drawn from, arise out of the writer's experience.

Two Categories, Generally:

2. "Inartistic" or "Atechnic" Proofs:

Greek word is "atekhnikē."

These originate from outside sources: The arguer has not necessarily experienced these pisteis first-hand.

Ex: witness testimony, contracts, articles in a scholarly journal, Wikipedia, etc.

What Aristotle Probably Said

"Of the *pisteis*, some are atechnic, some entechnic. I call atechnic those that are not provided by us but are preexisting: for example, witnesses, testimony of slaves under torture, contracts, and such like; and artistic whatever can be prepared by method and by us; thus, one must use the former [atechnic or inartistic] and invent the latter [entechnic or artistic]."

-- from On Rhetoric