**Dialectical Journal Articles #11-20 Review**

**Didion, *On Keeping a Notebook***

1. What is the primary characteristic of Didion’s style? How does its inclusion meet her purpose?

2. What is Didion’s rationale for keeping a notebook?

3. What is the principal rhetorical mode of this essay?

**Staples, *Just Walk By***

1. What is the effect of the opening paragraph on the reader? Does Staples draw you in or distance you?

2. What does Staples mean by his final sentence “It is my equivalent of the cowbell that hikers wear when they know they are in bear country”?

3. What are the speaker’s attitude toward his experiences?

**Tan, *Mother Tongue***

1. At several points in her essay, Tan relates anecdotes. How do they further her argument? Be sure to consider the anecdotes regarding Tan giving a speech to the stockbroker, the CAT scan and Tan’s experience with the SAT’s. What would the impact be of omitting them?

2. What is Tan’s primary purpose in this essay?

3. What is the author’s attitude toward her mother?

**Swift, *A Modest Proposal***

1. How does Swift want the reader to view the speaker? What features best describe the “persona” he adopts?

2. How do the types of appeals and values the speaker uses reveal tone?

3. What is the counterpoint and how does the speaker refute it?

**King, *I Have A Dream***

1. What is the occasion of King’s speech? How does he appeal to this specific audience?

2. Why does King begin with the words “Five score years ago”?

3. What is the effect of King’s ample use of parallel structure?

**Rodriguez, *None of This is Fair***

1. What is Rodriguez’s central thesis? What expectations does he have of his audience?

2. To what extent does Rodriguez present a formal argument based on an appeal to reason? To what extent does he attempt to persuade through an appeal to emotion? Which element is stronger in this piece?

3. What is the effect of the simile Rodriguez uses in the final line?

**Cofer, *The Myth of the Latin Woman***

1. How does Cofer broader her argument from her personal experience to larger concerns and issues?

2. What is the author’s tone?

3. Cofer ends by quoting one of her own poems. Is that an effective ending? Why or why not?

**Anzaldua, *How to Tame a Wild Tongue***

1. What rhetorical technique does Anzaldua use to open her essay? How does this connect to her purpose?

2. What is the principal contrast that is set up in Anzaldua’s essay? How does this reveal her tone?

3. What is the purpose of the endnotes?

**Blumfeld, *An Apology Letters from a Terrorist***

1. What is the rhetorical strategy of Blumfeld’s opening?

2. What is the purpose of Blumfeld’s inclusion of the epistolary form within her essay?

3. What is the primary purpose of this essay? How does its structure create meaning?

**Stanton, *Declaration of Sentiments***

1. Why does Stanton model her essay after a historical document?

2. What are the main rhetorical strategies Stanton uses to achieve her purpose?

3. What is the tone of this piece?