

Ms. Collier's Project Punway Toolbox



The Fabric: Rhetorical Modes

Definition: Explaining a term/concept using examples, etc.



(Spandex)

Description - using details to paint a visual image of a scene, character etc. Uses space order.



(Cotton)

(Tweed)



Process: Explaining “how to” often chronological, like narration; often used in science classes, e.g. for lab reports.



Narration: Telling about an event, usually in chronological order. Uses time order.



(Corduroy)

Example: Starts with a main idea, belief, or opinion--something abstract--and then gives one extended example or a series of shorter examples to illustrate that main idea. Illustrates an abstract idea. Can work with other modes.

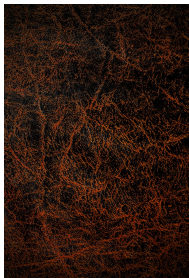
Division/Classification - like comparison/contrast, but considering more than two items (e.g. many types of fabrics).



(Silk)

Argument: Presents a debatable opinion and offers supports in favor of it. Will sometimes discuss both sides of an issue and then give good reasons for choosing one side over the other. (Velvet)

Cause/Result: Explaining reasons and effects.

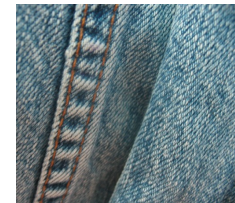


(Leather)



(Fur)

Comparison/Contrast: Showing similarities/differences between two people, concepts, things.

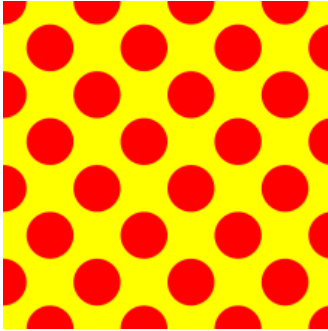


(Denim)

THE PATTERN AND COLOR: STYLE

DICTION

Refers chiefly to the choice of words, their arrangement, and the force, accuracy and distinction with which they are used.



Is the diction mostly formal or mostly informal?

Mostly polysyllabic (Latin and Greek) words or mostly short (Anglo-Saxon) words?

Is the diction scientific, scholarly, or conversational?

SYNTAX

The branch of linguistics that deals with the grammatical arrangement of words and morphemes in sentences.



Are the sentences mostly long or mostly short?

Are most of the sentences meandering, or are they terse?

What kinds of punctuation do we see?

How does this punctuation establish relationships among ideas within the sentences?

Is there cataloging of information?

A writer's attitude toward subject, audience, and self. Tone is primarily conveyed through diction, point of view, syntax, and level of formality.



Is the tone mostly serious or mostly playful?

What emotions do you sense from the writer?

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Language that uses words or expressions with a meaning that is different from the literal interpretation. It uses exaggerations or alterations to make a particular linguistic point.



Is the language mostly literal or mostly metaphorical?

Do the metaphors bring to mind something positive or something negative?

The Rhetorical Devices: Accessories

Association



Simile: A comparison between two objects using "like" or "as"

Decoration & Variety



Alliteration: The repetition of the beginning sound of a word.

Emphasis



Hyperbole: Exaggeration

Balance & Restatement



Parallelism: The repetition of a grammatical structure.