Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ McSorley

Literature and Composition II

**Analyzing Political Speeches**

Martin Luther King Jr. vs. Old Major

**Part I:** Use the chart below to compare the structure of Martin Luther King Jr.’s speech, “I Have a Dream” with Old Major’s speech from chapter one of *Animal Farm*. Find phrases (direct quotes) from each speech that serve as appropriate examples for each box below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Basic Structure*** | ***I Have a Dream*** | ***Old Major’s Speech*** |
| **Describe the present situation:**Look for who is benefitting from the present conditions. |  |  |
| **Prove unfairness/injustice:**Who is suffering under the current conditions? |  |  |
| **Provide a vision of a better way:**What would conditions be like if they were fairer than they are now? |  |  |
| **Call for action:**What must be done in order to achieve fairer conditions? |  |  |

**Part II:** Now compare the rhetorical devices used in both speeches. Find examples of each and place them in the appropriate box below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Rhetorical Devices** | **I Have a Dream** | **Old Major’s Speech** |
| **Alliteration:**Examples of repetition of sounds. |  |  |
| **Repetition:**Key words or phrases that are repeated for emphasis. |  |  |
| **Metaphor:**List comparisons that help listeners “envision” meaning.  |  |  |
| **Rhetorical Questions:**List questions that are for effect rather than to be actually answered. |  |  |
| **Allusion:**Find historical or literary references. |  |  |