

Directions: For each of the following underlined excerpts from Atticus's speech, identify which rhetorical device is being used and explain how it is used, according to the definitions and examples provided. Note: not all devices will be used. An example has been done for you.

Example: "What was the evidence of her offense? Tom Robinson, a human being.... What did she do? She tempted a Negro."

Rhetorical device: use of aporia to emphasize his points, Atticus asks the audience and jury these questions, for which the answers are clear.

1. "We do know in part what Mr. Ewell did: he did what any God-fearing, persevering, respectable, white man would do under the circumstances..."

Rhetorical device: **asyndeton or hyperbole**

2. "...confident that you gentlemen would go along with them on the assumption—the evil assumption—that *all* Negroes lie, that *all* Negroes are immoral, that *all* Negro men are not to be trusted around our women..."

Rhetorical device: **anaphora**

3. "The defendant is not guilty, but someone in this courtroom is."

Rhetorical device: **antithesis**

4. "I need not remind you of their appearance and conduct on the stand—you saw them for yourselves."

Rhetorical device: **paralipsis**

5. "Thomas Jefferson once said that all men are created equal, a phrase that the Yankees and the distaff side of the Executive Branch are fond of hurling at us."

Rhetorical device: **synecdoche**

6. "Which, gentlemen, we know is in itself a lie as black as Tom Robinson's skin, a lie I do not have to point out to you."

Rhetorical device: **paralipsis**

7. "We know all men are not created equal in the sense some people would have us believe—some people are smarter than others, some people have more opportunity because they're born with it, some men make more money than others, some ladies make better cakes than others—some people are born gifted beyond the normal scope of most men."

Rhetorical device: **parallelism**

8. "But there is one way in this country in which all men are created equal—there is one human institution that makes a pauper the equal of a Rockefeller, the stupid man the equal of an Einstein, and the ignorant man the equal of any college president."

Rhetorical device: **parallelism**

9. "What did her father do? We don't know but there is circumstantial evidence..."

Rhetorical device: **rhetorical question**

10. "There is not a person in this courtroom who has never told a lie, who has never done an immoral thing, and there is no man who has never looked upon a woman without desire."

Rhetorical device: **hyperbole**

11. Using Atticus's entire speech, find one example each of the use of logos, pathos, and ethos. Be sure to indicate which (logos, pathos, ethos) Atticus is using for his appeal.

logos: "This case should never had come to trial. This case is as simple as black and white."; **pathos:** "She is the victim of cruel poverty and ignorance"; **ethos:** "I am confident that you gentlemen will review without passion the evidence you have heard, come to a decision, and restore this defendant to his family."

12. Which rhetorical device did Atticus seem to use most? How effective was his choice? Explain.

Answers will vary; he uses a lot of parallelism, trying to appeal to the audience's sense of logic (logos)