Says/Does Analysis Instructions

What reading a text closely, consider what is *does* as well as what is *says*. When you do this, you are thinking about how language *functions*, a dimension that's distinct from what language *says*.

- Says statements summarize the text.
- *Does* statements *describe* the construction, organization, and form with as little reference to context as possible.

A says/does analysis results in a paragraph-by-paragraph descriptive outline.

Here are some words and phrases that describe what the language of a particular text or portion of it might do:

describesstates a propositionnarratesprovides historylistscategorizesitemizespredictsexplainsreasonscomparestraces

illustrates provides an example

evaluates synthesizes cites elaborates exemplifies develops offers a hypothesis supports contrasts introduces emphasizes claims synthesizes contradicts

Says/Does Analysis Scoring Guide

- 4 Exemplary performance. All *says* statements clearly and accurately account for the content of the text; all *does* statements adequately account for the text's function and the rhetor's moves.
- 3 Suitable performance. Nearly all *says* statements adequately account for the content of the text; nearly all *does* statements adequately account for the text's function and the rhetor's moves.
- 2 Uneven or inconsistent performance. While a portion of the *says* or *does* statements provide at least adequate accounts of content, function, and/or the rhetor's moves, too many inadequately do so.
- 1 Inadequate performance. Most of the *says/does* statements provide inadequate accounts of content, function, and/or the rhetor's moves. Typically accounts are imprecise, mistaken, or cursory, or otherwise unsuitable.