

PAPA Square

The PAPA Square is adapted from Maxine Hairston's Contemporary Composition (short edition). Through a PAPA Square, students analyze the Purpose, Argument, Persona, and Audience of a text.

Around the perimeter of the box, students answer the following questions in response to their own writing:

- Who is my audience?
- What is the persona, or public image, that I create for myself through my language choices and tone?
- What is my thesis or argument?
- What is my purpose or the desired outcome of my argument (in other words, what would I like my reader to do if he/she is persuaded by my argument)?

In the center of the PAPA Square, students identify the stylistic devices and the emotional, logical, and ethical appeals they use to persuade their audiences. These may include types of evidence, figurative language, text structures (cause and effect, etc.), and tone.

