ERWC

Rhetoric of Op-Ed

**Exercise 2: Identify singular and plural nouns**

Directions: Underline the nouns in the following sentences. Label the nouns “s” for singular or “pl” for plural.

1. Over 2,000 years ago, the Greek philosopher Aristotle argued that there were three basic ways to persuade.

2. One way is through the character or image that the writer projects.

3. Another way is through the use of logical arguments.

4. A third way is by appealing to our emotions.

5. Advertisers and politicians still use these appeals today.

6. A politician can question the character and values of an opponent.

7. An advertiser can appeal to our desire to be attractive to the opposite sex.

8. Recognizing these appeals can help us decide if we agree with an argument.

**Exercise 3: Identifying count and non-count nouns**

Directions: Go to the section of “Three Ways to Persuade” called “Pathos: The Emotions of the Audience.” Find five examples of count nouns and five non-count nouns. Put a question mark by any that you are not sure about.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **COUNT NOUNS** | **NON-COUNT NOUNS** |
| 1.  | 1. |
| 2. | 2. |
| 3. | 3. |
| 4. | 4. |
| 5. | 5. |

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**Exercise 4: Words that go with singular and plural nouns**

Directions: Circle the correct word (or words) by deciding if it/they should have a plural or a singular form.

1. No one should assume **their/his** **or her** position on the treatment of animals is shared by others.

2. One fast food company has funded **their/its** own research about animals’ emotions.

3. Farmers must spend 20 seconds with each of **their/his** **or her** pigs each day.

4. A large **amount/number** of advertisements try to make us feel insecure about our appearance.

5. Some people haven’t considered **their/his** **or her** responsibility to animals.

6. We sometimes wish politicians would use **less/fewer** rhetoric and took more action to solve problems.

7. Scientists used to believe that only people felt grief when **their/his** **or her** loved ones died.