

Original Paragraph

President Kennedy, in his Inaugural Address, uses antithesis to appeal to the emotions of several different audiences. Addressing allies of the United States he asserts, “United there is little we cannot do...Divided there is little we can do...” Here he presents the clear distinction between the two concepts: “United” and “Divided.” His statement also illustrates the futility of working alone. In reference to new countries who are finding their own identities he states, “We shall not always expect to find them supporting our view. But we shall always hope to find them strongly supporting their own freedom...” Kennedy’s use of contrasting statements is meant to send a message of peace to “those new states.” His suggestion points to the necessity of freedom above all things, even above their support of America’s agenda. With his final declaration made to the American people, he arrives at his most important contrast: “If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.” His statement illustrates the role of free societies everywhere to speak on behalf of those who have no voice. It is also serves as a warning that when society fails to do so, no one is above oppression. In his use of antithesis, President Kennedy argues that free people everywhere must unite in the cause of liberty and in failing to do so, everyone suffers.

Revised

President Kennedy, in his Inaugural Address, uses antithesis to appeal to the emotions of several different audiences. Addressing allies of the United States he asserts, “United there is little we cannot do...Divided there is little we can do...” Here he presents the clear distinction between the two concepts: “United” and “Divided.” His statement also illustrates the futility of working alone. In reference to new countries who are finding their own identities he states, “We shall not always expect to find them supporting our view. But we shall always hope to find them strongly supporting their own freedom...” Kennedy’s use of contrasting statements is meant to send a message of peace to “those new states.” His suggestion points to the necessity of freedom above all things, even above their support of America’s agenda. With his final declaration made to developing countries, he arrives at his most important contrast: “If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.” His statement reassures countries that are struggling to rebuild themselves that America will support them. It also serves as a warning to America that when society fails to do so, no one is above oppression. In his use of antithesis, President Kennedy argues that free people everywhere must unite in the cause of liberty and in failing to do so, everyone suffers.

Revision: In the original paragraph, I failed to address in the topic sentence the various audiences that Kennedy speaks to in his inaugural address. I also failed to address whether I believed he was making an appeal through ethos, pathos, or logos. Since I addressed most of the audiences in the analysis, I only use the general word “audiences.” I revised the last chunk of commentary sentences to include the emotional term “reassures” and

the audience of a developing country. I also changed the second commentary sentence to focus on America as an audience.