

Rhetorical Analysis essay paragraph

Activity - Improve the body paragraph by using some of the following techniques:

- Eliminate extraneous/redundant words and phrases
- Combine sentences
- Use precise language
- Use active voice
- Vary the types of sentences
- Add adverbs or phrases
- Invert the sentence order

One of the many ways Leonid Fridman conveys his message that the U.S. can't compete against other countries or remain a world power if it doesn't stop emphasizing athleticism over intellect is by appealing to the patriotism of his audience. He does this by comparing the U.S. to other countries in the world. He writes, "In most industrialized nations, not least of all our economic rivals in East Asia, a kid who studies hard is lauded and held up as an example to other students" (lines 37-39). Before this, Fridman explained earlier in the passage, "Even at a prestigious academic institution like Harvard, anti-intellectualism is rampant" (lines 11-12). He compares American professors to those in other countries. He says that Americans value professional athletes. He says that while Americans value professional athletes more it is different in other countries. In other countries, it is professors who enjoy that kind of prestige and reward (lines 41-46). The typical American takes pride in the fact that America is a major economic player in the global economy. The typical American would worry if they thought its place would be in danger. This would appeal to their patriotism. It might even cause a shift in the way they see intellectuals. Instead of seeing them as circus freaks, they might be seen as the very foundation of the country's status. Fridman's use of comparison to appeal to patriotism is an effective way to persuade the American people that they must shift their priorities from athleticism to intellectualism, or at the very least, to stop being anti-intellectual.