

Types of Reasoning

a supplemental resource to the Rhetoric Support Document

Types of Reasoning

While there are many types of reasoning, this document references *inductive*, *deductive*, and *causal reasoning* to be considered by ELA teachers. It is not suggested that students memorize the specific names of the types of reasoning.

The Standards: The phrase “types of reasoning” enters the language of the *2024 SC CCR ELA Standards* in ELA.6.AOR.5.3.

Overarching Standard ELA.AOR.5: Evaluate and critique how an author uses words, phrases, and text structures to craft text.

ELA.6.AOR.5.3	ELA.7.AOR.5.3	ELA.8.AOR.5.3	ELA.E1.AOR.5.3
Trace the development of an author’s argument while identifying the types of reasoning used and/or the rhetorical appeal of ethos, pathos, or logos in an informational text.	Trace the development of an author’s argument while explaining the types of reasoning and/or the rhetorical appeal of ethos, pathos, or logos in an informational text.	Trace the development of an author’s argument while analyzing the types of reasoning and/or rhetorical appeals used in an informational text.	Analyze an author’s argument while evaluating the effectiveness of the types of reasoning and/or the rhetoric used in an informational text.

Click the following links for more insight into [grade-level indicators](#).

Reasoning

To think, explain, justify, or argue logically. Reasoning allows a reader to better understand and make sense of information.

Deductive Reasoning
<i>Deductive reasoning</i> begins with a general statement and ends with a narrower conclusion.
Example
Premise 1: All students in 6 th grade like chocolate. Premise 2: Tierra is in 6 th grade. Conclusion: Therefore, Tierra likes chocolate.

Inductive Reasoning
<i>Deductive reasoning</i> is the most commonly used form of logical reasoning and begins with specific examples before leading into a general overview.
Example
Premise 1: Mr. James is a teacher. Premise 2: All teachers like children. Conclusion: Therefore, Mr. James likes children.

Causal Reasoning

Causal reasoning determines cause-and-effect relationships by using logic and facts.

Example

To show cause and effect relationships, causal reasoning may use words and phrases such as

- Because
- Therefore
- Yet
- So
- Even though
- As a result
- For this reason,
- In order to