English 2E Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Argumentation Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Article: “Why Read Shakespeare?”

Name of publication where article first appeared: Speech at Catholic University of America

Original date of publication: September 2008

**INTRODUCTION:**

 (How does the author gain readers’ interest and establish his credibility? What is the claim?)

**BACKGROUND:**

(What additional or personal information presented is important to the argument?)

**LINES OF ARGUMENT:**

(Where are logical and emotional appeals present in support of the claim?)

**ALTERNATIVE ARGUMENTS:**

(What are the advantages/disadvantages? Why is this view preferable to others?)

**CONCLUSION:**

(What are the implications? What does the author want readers to do?)

“*from* Why Read Shakespeare?” by Michael Mack

Read/listen to the selection from the argument “Why Read Shakespeare?” by Michael Mack. Then, reread the lines indicated with each question below. Answer each question, citing text evidence.

1. Lines 1–13: Read the first five lines of the speech and identify the claim that Mack makes.
2. Lines 1–13: How do the rhetorical questions in this section set the stage for Mack’s argument and engage his audience?
3. Lines 16–20: Create a chart that lists terms that describe early and late reactions to listening to a piece of music.
4. Lines 50–59: Analyze how Mack uses the rhetorical device of addressing a potential concern of his audience.
5. Lines 55–66: Think about the denotation and connotation of the words *professional* and *scientific*. Describe how Mack uses the meanings of the words and resulting tone to further develop his argument.
6. Lines 88–106: What reasons does Mack use to explain how learning about literature relates to learning about life?
7. Lines 111–132: In the last few paragraphs of the speech, how does Mack connect reading Shakespeare to the audience’s self-interest? What rhetorical questions does Mack use to connect with his audience?