

THE ENTHYMEME ASSIGNMENT

Example Enthymeme Presentation

In the television series *Angel*, the lead character is a good-hearted vampire who seeks redemption by protecting the weak from other predators such as himself. Angel runs a detective agency which enables him to find needy people and help them. Angel hates to charge money for his services. His employees, however, realize that they need the money to run the business. Therefore, the following persuasion took place in one early episode:

WATCO:

What are the consequences of accepting money from victims on their self esteem?

Claim:

Accepting money from the victims benefits their self esteem.

Because: Accepting payment encourages them to feel less like victims.

Enthymeme Presentations:

This term we will emphasize the importance of the enthymeme to examine the validity of an argument and to provide a solid foundation for effective, logical persuasion that will affect an audience, especially one that is initially opposed to your point of view. While the enthymeme may seem to be a formula that has little application in the real world, reasoning based on enthymemes can be seen everywhere.

Assignment:

For this presentation you will work in groups to locate a passage from a well-known book or movie that shows reasoning based on the principles of the enthymeme. You will need to present either the passage or movie clip to the class with a brief discussion of how the enthymeme works to make the argument more compelling. You will need to present a WATCO, claim, because clause, and briefly address the assumptions of the audience.

Due Date:

Group Members:

