

31 January 2017  
01 February 2017



Benito Mussolini, in 1935

Image from <http://skepticism-images.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/images/jreviews/Mussolini-1935-a.jpg>

Greetings, Wise Fools—

As we continue to study effective strategies for public speaking, today we'll make an interesting transition in the speakers we will consider.

Here's how we'll roll:

**1. WEDGE**—Having completed your second Speedwrite on the “I Have a Dream” speech by Dr Martin Luther King, Jr, take roughly ten minutes crafting your final personal response to the speech. Did you find it persuasive, or even moving? If so, why? If you like compare and contrast the speech with the speeches made by characters in *Animal Farm*.

**2. Public Speaking: An Historical Example**—We'll learn about an important figure in recent world history, Benito Mussolini, an Italian politician, school teacher, journalist, and leader of the National Fascist Party, who ruled as Prime Minister from 1922 until 1943. While first leading Italy according to its democratic constitution, Mussolini ruled as a dictator beginning in 1925, taking the title, “*Il Duce*.”

We'll listen to and consider a speech from 1935.

**3. Strategies for Public Speaking**—We'll identify additional strategies for effective public speaking from Mussolini's speech and annotate the text as a prewriting exercise. Pay particular attention to the elements that reveal the ethical, logical, and pathetic appeals.

**4. A Jump on the Homework**—Our next Speedwrite will answer this question: *Which rhetorical strategies make Mussolini's speech effective and how do they produce their effects?*

Tappa! Tappa! Tappa!—  
Mr Leo

**Homework:**

1. If you have not done so already, complete the active reading you began in item #3 above. I will check your active reading when next we meet.
2. Complete the Speedwrite and submit it to Turnitin.com prior to the start of our next class meeting.

Your Speedwrite must:

- Be submitted in MLA ms format.
- Present the prompt immediately after the header information: *Which rhetorical strategies make Mussolini's speech effective and how do they produce their effects?*
- Be written in the third person and present tense.
- Offer a single-sentence arguable (C→E) thesis that answers the question and reveals a minimum of three (3) supporting points. Label the thesis clearly.
- Draft a minimum of three (3) complete body paragraphs, each of which contains
  - a complete ¶TS (transition + claim) clearly linked to the thesis
  - sufficient textual evidence in the form of direct quotations
  - clearly established narrative context for textual evidence
  - sufficient reasoning to explain the ways in which the evidence supports the ¶TS
  - appropriate literary terms
  - a concluding summary sentence that does not contain textual evidence.

N.B.: You are not writing a complete essay: Title, Intro, and Conclusion are not required.

**Length:**

- 400 words minimum/450 words maximum (not including the prompt or header information).
- Reveal the word count at the end of the document.