

Lesson 6: Emma Gonzalez's Speech

Students will be able to evaluate the strength of the argument in a speech.

Overview

After the Parkland shooting, high school students quickly mobilized to fight for gun control. Emma Gonzalez, a student from Parkland, spoke just days after the shooting, calling for change. In this lesson, students will evaluate her speech as a persuasive text.

Comprehension Questions

- What is the main argument Emma Gonzalez is making in her speech?
- How can we evaluate the strength of her argument?

Directions: Read Gonzalez’s speech, then evaluate the strength of her argument using the questions below.

What is Gonzalez’s central argument?

What is the strongest evidence Gonzalez uses to support her argument?

What evidence is weaker, or needs clarifying?

Look at the author's Twitter feed (@emma4change). What can you learn about her views or background?

What do you notice about the tone of Gonzalez's speech? Does her tone make her argument more effective or less effective?

What is your final analysis? Do you agree, disagree, or partially agree with Gonzalez's point?