

**AoW Response: SOAPStone**  
**Document and Article Evaluation**

**Directions:** Remember, you still must have an intro and concluding paragraph, include a quote (with a citation), and give your opinion; all in at least 400 words. Whew!

**Who is the Speaker?**

Remember that it is not enough to simply name the speaker or the author. What can you say about the speaker based on references to the text? What can you infer about who they are, where they live, what they believe, etc?

**What is the Occasion?**

Be certain to discuss and record both the larger occasion (big picture, universal ideas) –those issues and ideas that must have made the speaker think about this topic – and the immediate occasion (the topic, subject.)

**Who is the Audience?**

At whom is this text directed? It's not enough to say "anyone who reads it." You will need to identify a certain audience by describing some of their characteristics: adults, teens, Americans, sports fans, students, etc. Why would they want or need to read/hear about this?

**What is the Purpose?**

The purpose could be personal (they feel guilty, angry, frustrated, excited or they want you to do something.) However, it could also be directed at the audience. You will have to decide what the message is and how the author wants this audience to respond.

**What is the Subject?**

You should be able to state the subject in a short sentence.

**What is the Tone (author's attitude toward the subject)?**

Try to choose a description of the tone (interested, bitter, humourous?) that fits the piece as a whole. Include specific words or phrases from the text and explain how they support the tone you have chosen. How does the subject affect the tone?

Include a summary (conclusion) about the article at the end of your evaluation. Your conclusion should state your opinion about the topic as well as the main idea of the author.