Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_

Analyzing ATTICUS’S CLOSING ARGUMENTS

In Atticus’s closing speech of the trial, he employs rhetorical language and persuasive techniques in an attempt to convince the jury of Tom’s innocence. Closely analyze his words, and then fill in the following table.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **QUOTE** | **TECHNIQUE** | **EFFECT** |
| “… evidence **you** have hears…” / “**We** know all men…” | Use of Pronouns |  |
| “**She** was white, and **she** tempted a Negro. **She** did something that in our society is unspeakable: **she** kissed a black man.” | Repetition |  |
|  | Simile (use of figurative language) |  |
| “What was the evidence of her offence?” / “What did she do?” / “What did her father do?” | Rhetorical Questions | Atticus use questions rhetorically here, which is persuasive as they are the questions the jury may have and so he answers them for them, drawing them to his conclusions.  |
| “The state has not produced on iota of medical evidence…” | Attacking the opposition’s argument |  |
| “**We** know…” / “…**this is** a truth…”  | Logos (appeal to reason)  |  |
| “equal” / “honorable” / “duty”  | Use of emotive adjectives/ Pathos |  |
| “Thomas Jeferson once said…” | Ethos (appeal to sources of authority) |  |