

Step 3: Read the passage below and annotate it.

Haemon (*boyishly earnest*). Father:
Reason is God's crowning gift to man, and you are right
to warn me against losing mine. I cannot say—
I hope that I shall never want to say!—that you
have reasoned badly. Yet there are other men
who can reason, too; and their opinions might be helpful.
You are not in a position to know everything
that people say or do, or what they feel:
Your temper terrifies them—everyone
will tell you only what you like to hear.
But I, at any rate, can listen; and I have heard them
muttering and whispering in the dark about this girl.
They say no woman has ever, so unreasonably,
died so shameful a death for a generous act:
“She covered her brother's body. Is this indecent?
She kept him from dogs and vultures. Is this a crime?
Death? She should have all the honor that we can give her!”
This is the way they talk out there in the city.
You must believe me:
Nothing is closer to me than your happiness.
What could be closer? Must not any son
value his father's fortune as his father does his?
I beg you, do not be unchangeable:
Do not believe that you alone can be right.
The man who thinks that,
the man who maintains that only he has the power
to reason correctly, the gift to speak, the soul—
a man like that, when you know him, turns out empty.
It is not reason never to yield to reason!
In flood time you can see how some trees bend,
and because they bend, even their twigs are safe,
while stubborn trees are torn up, roots and all.
And the same thing happens in sailing:
Make your sheet fast, never slacken—and over you go,
head over heels and under: and there's your voyage.
Forget you are angry! Let yourself be moved!
I know I am young; but please let me say this:
The ideal condition
would be, I admit, that men should be right by instinct;
but since we are all too likely to go astray,
the reasonable thing is to learn from those who can teach.

Step 4: Use your annotation to answer the questions below:

1. Summarize Haemon's argument in 1 to 2 sentences.
2. How does Haemon establish ethos in his argument?
3. Identify two uses of logos in his argument.
4. Identify two uses of pathos in his argument.
5. Explain how ONE of the ideas you identified in number 3 OR 4 supports Haemon's argument.
6. Find an example of each of the following rhetorical devices in his argument:
 - a. parallelism
 - b. rhetorical question
 - c. repetition
 - d. metaphor
 - e. personification
 - f. anecdote
7. Explain how ONE of the rhetorical devices you identified in number 6 supports Haemon's argument.