# The Rhetorical Situation (Accessible Text Version)

## Elements and Definitions

### Speaker

Your speaking style or persona.

### Context

The event or occasion of your speech, and the wider social/political situation.

### Exigence

The problem your speech is addressing.

### Audience

Who you are speaking to.

### Purpose

What you want your audience to believe, know, or do.

## How to Use This

Before drafting a speech, write one or two sentences for each element—Speaker, Context, Exigence, Audience, and Purpose—to clarify your rhetorical situation.