

Cold-Read Task Answer Key

1. __D__

Standards: RI.9-10.3, RI.9-10.10

2. __A__ Part A

__C__ Part B

Standards: RI.9-10.1, RI.9-10.4, RI.9-10.10, L.9-10.5

3. __A__ Part A

__B__ Part B

Standards: RI.9-10.1, RI.9-10.2, RI.9-10.10

4. __A__ Part A

__D__ Part B

Standards: RI.9-10.1, RI.9-10.4, RI.9-10.10

5. __A__

Standards: RI.9-10.5, RI.9-10.10

6. Student Exemplar Response

John F. Kennedy was sworn into office in 1961 amidst turmoil and uncertainty in America and the world. In his Inaugural Address, John F. Kennedy effectively asserts that the world must unite with America in order to defeat common enemies. Kennedy builds logos, ethos, and pathos by employing a variety of rhetorical strategies.

Kennedy builds logos and ethos throughout the speech by identifying problems and then proposing solutions. Kennedy identifies the United Nations as “the last best hope in an age where the instruments of war have far outpaced the instruments of peace.” He reaffirms America’s commitment to ensure that the U.N. does not become

“merely a forum of invective” and to broaden “the area in which its writ may run.” Kennedy identifies the danger of the UN becoming only a place where speeches are made and resolves to ensure that the U.N. can continue to ensure peace in the world. By using this organizational approach, Kennedy is able to appeal to the listener's sense of logic and create clarity. He is also able to build his credibility by proposing clear solutions to the identified problems.

In addition to building logos and ethos, Kennedy's use of figurative language builds pathos by instilling a sense of patriotic pride and honor within Americans. Kennedy uses metaphors throughout the speech. He speaks of breaking “the bonds of mass misery” and “casting off the chains of poverty.” He also admonishes nations who have “foolishly sought power by riding the back of the tiger.” In stirring the emotions of pride and honor within people, Kennedy urges Americans and others around the world to join his cause: ensuring freedom and stability in all nations.

Through his use of rhetoric, Kennedy is able to powerfully argue the cause of freedom and America's role in that pursuit, making this one of his most-remembered speeches.

Standards: RI.9-10.1, RI.9-10.6, RI.9-10.10, W.9-10.1a, W.9-10.1b, W.9-10.1c, W.9-10.1d, W.9-10.1e, W.9-10.9b, W.9-10.10, L.9-10.1b, L.9-10.1c, L.9-10.1d, L.9-10.2a, L.9-10.2b, L.9-10.2c, L.9-10.3