



## Evaluating Reasoning in U.S. Texts

### Today's Standard

11-12.W.9b - Apply grades 11-12 Reading standards to literary nonfiction (e.g., 'Delineate and evaluate the reasoning in seminal U.S. texts, including the application of constitutional principles and use of legal reasoning [e.g., in U.S. Supreme Court Case majority opinions and dissents] and the premises, purposes, and arguments in works of public advocacy [e.g., The Federalist, presidential addresses]').

### Real-World Applications for this Standard

Analyze U.S. Supreme Court case opinions; Evaluate arguments in The Federalist Papers; Critique presidential addresses; Discuss legal reasoning in historical texts

### Today I Learned

Today, we learned how to read and understand important U.S. texts. We looked at how these texts use special ways of talking to make their point.

### Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes kids think all old texts are just facts. They also might think legal talk is only for lawyers. But old texts can try to persuade us, and legal talk can be in many types of writing.

### Quiz Me

- What is a historical text?
- What is bias?
- Can legal reasoning be in speeches?
- What does 'persuasive' mean?
- Name one U.S. historical document.

### Help Me

We use what we learn from reading important U.S. texts to understand how people make arguments. This helps us see how rules and ideas work in real life, like in court cases or speeches.