Writing an intro for a rhetorical analysis:

Step One: Determine the author’s purpose

Step Two: Determine either (1) what the author is doing (technique) to try to achieve a mini-goal in order to accomplish his or her larger purpose or (2) what strategy (mini-goal) the author is using to accomplish his or her ultimate purpose.

Step Three: Make a thesis statement: “Riley seeks to convince her listeners that pit bulls should be banned in the city of Detroit by \_asking questions\_, \_using narratives\_, and \_changing her tone\_.

Step Four: Hook your reader: What’s so dangerous about pit bulls, anyway? I mean, they’re just dogs, right? Just dogs that outweigh many humans. Just dogs whose jaws are structured in such a way that they cannot be forced to open unless the dog wants them to. Just dogs who frequently are bred for their often savage nature. What’s so dangerous about pit bulls? Everything.

Step Five: Stitch it together and include a bridge between your attention-getter and your thesis: “What’s so dangerous about pit bulls, anyway? I mean, they’re just dogs, right? Just dogs that outweigh many humans. Just dogs whose jaws are structured in such a way that they cannot be forced to open unless the dog wants them to. Just dogs who frequently are bred for their often savage nature. What’s so dangerous about pit bulls? Everything. *At least, that is the opinion of Detroit Free Press columnist Rochelle Riley. In her article “Detroit Should Adopt Pit Bull Ban It Didn’t 9 Years Ago,”* Riley seeks to convince her listeners that pit bulls should be banned in the city of Detroit by \_asking questions\_, \_bringing in expert opinions\_, and \_changing her tone\_.”