

Voices Of Proof Answer Key

1. Logos (Logic/Evidence)

- *Reasoning:* Uses statistics and factual evidence to appeal to logic.
- *How it strengthens the argument:* Provides measurable data that makes the problem seem urgent and undeniable.

2. Ethos (Credibility/Authority)

- *Reasoning:* The speaker establishes authority by referencing their expertise as a marine biologist.
- *How it strengthens the argument:* Builds trust with the audience by showing the speaker's qualifications and personal experience.

3. Pathos (Emotion/Values)

- *Reasoning:* Appeals to emotion by asking the audience to picture the disappointment of future generations.
- *How it strengthens the argument:* Creates guilt and responsibility, motivating the audience to care and act.

Teacher's Notes:

- Remind students that rhetorical appeals often **work together**. For example, the marine biologist's description of pulling bags from turtles has both ethos (experience) and pathos (emotional imagery).
- Encourage citing **specific words** as evidence: numbers/statistics → logos, credentials → ethos, emotional language ("children," "responsibility") → pathos.
- Extension idea: Have students write their own short persuasive paragraph on banning plastic straws, using all three appeals.