Name:

Historical Narrative Analysis

Burke’s Pentad

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| Pentad | Guiding question(s) | Answers taken from narrative |
| Act | What happened? What is the action? What is going on? What action; what thoughts? |  |
| Scene | Where is the act happening? What is the background situation? |  |
| Agent(s) | What individuals, groups of individuals, or societal institutions are involved in the action? What are their roles? Who is the primary agent according to the narrative? |  |
| Agency | How doe the primary agent act? By what means does he/she act? How do the other agents act? By what means do they act? |  |
| Purpose | Why do the agents act? What do they want? Be sure to separate out those agents that seemingly work contrary to one another. |  |