Steve Jobs Commencement Speech Worksheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Start Up: How have your experiences and choices shaped your life? Do you have a story that you could share with a young person that would help them understand that choices in life have an influence on what happens to you? Write 4-6 sentences.

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Directions: Watch the commencement speech by Steve Jobs. As you watch, complete questions 1-4.

1. Summarize Jobs’ first story

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2. Summarize Job’s second story

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3. Summarize Jobs’ third story

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4. What are some rhetorical devices Jobs uses in his speech? (Rhetorical question, ethos, pathos, logos, repetition, parallel structure, allusion)

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Collaboration: With your partner, discuss the following questions and complete your worksheet

5. How does Jobs establish his authority?

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6. How does Jobs use pathos (or emotion) in his speech?

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7. What logical appeal did Jobs use?

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Writing Task: On your own, write a response to the following prompt. Be sure to use in text citation for full credit!

Would you consider Steve Jobs’ commencement speech successful? Was he effective in persuading his audience? Use at least two (2) pieces of evidence from the speech to support your claim.

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