

# Rhetorical Triangle Practice

Read the following scenario, and then match the components of the situation to the parts of the rhetorical triangle. You'll use each letter one time.

Scenario: Rachel Carson wrote the book *Silent Spring* to provide both legislators and the public with more nuanced information about widespread use of pesticides like DDT. In particular, Carson sought to educate people about the potential risks associated with immoderate pesticide use and the collateral damage caused by chemical pesticides. Although she expected most people to be receptive to the information, she feared a smear campaign from the chemical industry might undermine her message. In order to mitigate the effects of such an attack, Carson carefully presented the facts but refrained from arguing unilaterally against pesticides, and she made sure to reinforce her claims with peer-reviewed scientific evidence.

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. ___ legislators and the public  | a. genre           |
| 2. ___ a potential smear campaign<br>from the chemical industry                  | b. social context  |
| 3. ___ environmental nonfiction  | c. audience        |
| 4. ___ Rachel Carson informing people<br>of the risks associated with pesticides | d. speaker/purpose |
| 5. ___ environmental impacts and risks<br>of pesticides                          | e. subject         |