

## RST Analyses from the RST web site ([www.sfu.ca/rst](http://www.sfu.ca/rst))

### The Not Laziness Text

This is a short newspaper editorial with a political purpose. It illustrates argumentation technique for persuading the reader of something that is, for some readers, controversial and possibly part of conventional wisdom.

Although both this text and the "bouquets" text are short expository newspaper articles, analysis shows a sharp difference in their strategies.

#### The text:

- 1) Farmington police had to help control traffic recently
- 2) when hundreds of people lined up to be among the first applying for jobs at the yet-to-open Marriott Hotel.
- 3) The hotel's help-wanted announcement - for 300 openings - was a rare opportunity for many unemployed.
- 4) The people waiting in line carried a message, a refutation, of claims that the jobless could be employed if only they showed enough moxie.
- 5) Every rule has exceptions,
- 6) but the tragic and too-common tableaux of hundreds or even thousands of people snake-lining up for any task with a paycheck illustrates a lack of jobs,
- 7) not laziness.

The Hartford Courant

