**Introduction: Please Don’t Fail Me Student Email**

**Directions**: Share the following student “e-mail” with students, and ask them to identify any errors in reasoning. They might not have the vocabulary yet to name the fallacies, but hopefully they’ll spot the bad reasoning!

After having students watch the lecture video, ask them to identify the fallacies by name. Choose from: *ad hominem*, appeal to authority, appeal to emotions, appeal to the masses, false cause, false choice, false equivalence, red herring, single cause, and slippery slope

Hey Prof,

So, I couldn’t help but notice you gave me a 34% for the year, and see, I’m gonna need you to bring that grade up a little bit. The reason my grades have been slipping lately is actually because my uncle’s friend’s kid’s dog just had babies, and one of them got hit by a car. My car. I accidentally killed my uncle’s friend’s kid’s dog and now my uncle’s friend’s kid is depressed, which honestly has been weighing on my heart lately. Also, other than that, if you fail me in this class then I’m not gonna get into the graduate school I wanted to get into, and I’ll never be able to get my doctorate and then even more people will die. If you fail me in this class people WILL die and it will be your fault.

The way I look at it is like this, why would you give me a failing grade? Yeah, I didn’t do any of my homework but there are homeless people. Literally homeless people. Everywhere. You should put more of your focus and energy on that if you really care so much. I even asked my mom and dad if they think my final grade is fair, and they agree with me. It’s not fair. So, anyways PLEASE update my grade and I would appreciate it sooooo much.

Thank You.

**ANSWER KEY: Please Don’t Fail Me Student Email**

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Appeal to Emotions

Slippery Slope

Red Herring

Appeal to Authority