When Cicero discusses the three styles, he always makes it plain that the perfect orator must be able to use all three whenever suitable and he goes so far as to identify each style with a particular function of the orator. One should instruct (docere) in the plain style, entertain (delectare) in the mean style, and stir the emotions (movere) in the grand style. The greatness of Demosthenes was that he could use every style as the occasion demanded, and Cicero makes the same claim for himself, and with good reason.

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