

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

## Unmasking the Discursive Architect: Your Senior Critical Reading Challenge

Examine subtext and rhetorical maneuvers within complex political and philosophical treatises to refine your advanced evaluative synthesis skills.

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**1. In a post-colonial critique of a 19th-century travelogue, which analytical lens most effectively exposes the author's 'unspoken assumptions' about cultural hierarchy?**

- A. Biographical criticism of the author's upbringing
- B. Structuralist analysis of the book's chapter organization
- C. Deconstruction of binary oppositions (e.g., 'civilized' vs. 'primitive')
- D. Quantitative assessment of the adjectives used to describe landscapes

**2. True or False: In a high-level scholarly argument, an author's choice to omit counter-arguments is always a sign of poor scholarship rather than a deliberate rhetorical strategy to establish a specific paradigm.**

- A. True
- B. False

**3. When evaluating the 'Internal Consistency' of a philosophical treatise, what is the primary focus of the reader?**

- A. Whether the author's conclusions align with contemporary public opinion
- B. Whether the premise and the conclusion are logically connected without self-contradiction
- C. The frequency of citations from primary rather than secondary sources
- D. The accessibility of the language for a non-specialist audience

**4. To identify \_\_\_\_\_ bias, a critical reader looks for instances where an author assumes their own cultural or social norms are the universal standard for all human experience.**

- A. Confirmation
- B. Normative
- C. Statistical
- D. Linguistic

**5. Consider an essay that uses a highly 'idiosyncratic' vocabulary to describe common psychological states. What is the most likely critical objective of the author?**

- A. To confuse the reader into accepting weak evidence
- B. To challenge conventional thinking by distancing the reader from familiar terms
- C. To demonstrate a lack of professional expertise in the field of psychology
- D. To adhere to the standard APA style requirements for scientific writing

**6. True or False: In a technical synthesis, the 'Synthesis' level of Bloom's Taxonomy requires the reader to create a new, original perspective by combining information from multiple conflicting sources.**

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- A. True
- B. False

**7. A reader spotting a 'False Dilemma' in a political speech is identifying a flaw in \_\_\_\_\_, where the author presents only two options when more exist.**

- A. Rhetorical ethos
- B. Logical validity
- C. Syntactic structure
- D. Tone consistency

**8. Which question best facilitates an 'evaluative' critique of a peer-reviewed scientific abstract?**

- A. How many subjects participated in the clinical trial?
- B. In what year was the journal first established?
- C. To what extent do the methodology's limitations undermine the generalizability of the findings?
- D. Can the reader define the technical jargon used in the third sentence?

**9. When a text relies heavily on \_\_\_\_\_, it uses emotional appeals to bypass the reader's logical faculties, a common target for critical deconstruction.**

- A. Logos
- B. Pathos
- C. Metonymy
- D. Syntax

**10. True or False: The 'Intentional Fallacy' suggests that a critical reader should judge a text based primarily on what the author claims they intended to say in interviews or journals.**

- A. True
- B. False