

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: The Ghostwriter's Gambit: College Essay Essentials Quiz

Establish a foundational grip on academic writing structures used in university admissions, grant proposals, and professional reporting.

1. A technical report explaining how a blockchain ledger maintains data integrity is best classified as which essay type?

Answer: B) Expository

Expository writing focuses on informing the reader and explaining complex processes or facts objectively.

2. An argumentative essay must include a counterargument to address opposing viewpoints and strengthen the writer's position.

Answer: A) True

In college-level writing, argumentative essays require addressing and refuting counter-claims to demonstrate critical thinking.

3. A writing piece that uses heavy imagery to recount the atmosphere of a 1920s jazz club without a specific plot is primarily _____.

Answer: C) Descriptive

Descriptive essays prioritize sensory details and 'painting a picture' over plot or argumentation.

4. Which essay type would you use for a university application personal statement reflecting on a transformative internship?

Answer: A) Narrative

Narrative essays are used to tell a story or share a personal experience with a clear arc or reflection.

5. The primary goal of a persuasive essay is to entertain the reader with fictional anecdotes.

Answer: B) False

Persuasive essays aim to convince the reader of a specific viewpoint using logic, ethics, or emotion, not just to entertain.

Name: _____ Date: _____

6. What is the defining characteristic of an argumentative essay compared to a simple persuasive essay?

Answer: C) A rigorous reliance on evidence and logic to support a claim

Argumentative essays focus on formal logic, empirical evidence, and data to support a claim rather than personal opinion alone.

7. If you are writing a manual on how to install a HVAC system, you are utilizing the _____ essay style.

Answer: B) Expository

Expository writing explains 'how-to' processes and delivers factual information to the reader.

8. Academic journals often publish expository and argumentative pieces rather than narrative ones.

Answer: A) True

Higher education and professional journals prioritize evidence-based arguments and factual explanations.

9. Which of these is a typical outcome of a well-written descriptive essay?

Answer: B) The reader gains a vivid mental image of a subject.

Descriptive writing succeeds when the reader can clearly visualize the subject through sensory details.

10. An editorial in a newspaper urging city council to build more bike lanes is an example of a _____ essay.

Answer: C) Persuasive

Editorials are designed to persuade the audience to adopt a certain opinion or take specific action.