

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Detective's Lens: 6th Grade Evidence and Bias Investigation Quiz

Can you spot the difference between a neutral report and a hidden agenda? Apply skepticism to news cycles and historical perspectives in this summative assessment.

1. An author claims that a proposed wind farm will 'ruin the natural beauty of the valley.' This statement is best classified as:

Answer: B) A subjective opinion using loaded language

The word 'ruin' and the concept of 'beauty' are subjective measures of value, making this an opinion rather than a provable fact.

2. Which of these sources would be considered the most reliable for a research paper on the health effects of a new medicine?

Answer: D) A peer-reviewed article in the New England Journal of Medicine

Peer-reviewed journals undergo rigorous checks by other experts in the field, making them the gold standard for reliable evidence.

3. When a reader looks for the author's _____, they are trying to understand why the text was written (e.g., to persuade, inform, or entertain).

Answer: B) Purpose

Author's purpose refers to the underlying intent and goal the writer has for their specific audience.

4. Evaluating a text critically means finding only the things you disagree with in the writing.

Answer: B) False

Critical reading involves evaluating the strength of arguments and evidence objectively, regardless of whether you agree with the conclusion.

5. A travel brochure describes a city as 'The most breathtaking destination in the world.' What is the author's primary likely bias?

Answer: B) Economic bias to encourage tourism

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Brochures use exaggerated language (hyperbole) because their goal is to sell a service or promote travel for economic gain.

6. An author who only presents one side of an argument while ignoring strong evidence for the other side is exhibiting _____.

Answer: C) Bias

Bias is a lack of neutrality, often shown by cherry-picking information to support a single perspective.

7. The sentence 'The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified in 1920' is an example of a fact.

Answer: A) True

This statement can be proven true or false through historical records, making it a statement of fact.

8. A historian writes about a battle using only the diaries of the winning generals. What critical reading question should you ask?

Answer: B) Whose perspective is missing from this account?

Identifying missing perspectives (like the losing side or common soldiers) is a key part of analyzing potential bias in a text.

9. To _____ an argument, a reader must break it down into the main claim and the supporting evidence.

Answer: B) Analyze

Analysis involves examining the parts of a whole to see how they work together to support a conclusion.

10. Statistics and data are always used neutrally and never to support a specific opinion.

Answer: B) False

Critical readers know that authors can select specific data points or present statistics in ways that favor their particular argument.