

Name: _____ Date: _____

Epistemological Forensic Lab: 12th Grade Critical Reading Quiz

Synthesize complex arguments and deconstruct high-level rhetorical biases for your next advanced seminar or AP-prep evaluation.

1. In her postcolonial critique, an author uses 'intentional silences' regarding a dominant culture's perspective. When applying critical reading to this text, what is the primary synthesis required of the reader?

- A. Identifying the grammatical shifts that signal a change in tone.
- B. Constructing the missing narrative to reveal the author's underlying ideological stance.
- C. Memorizing the specific historical dates mentioned in the footnotes.
- D. Comparing the font style to the publication's established branding.

2. Evaluating the 'paratext' (prefaces, footnotes, and blurbs) of a 17th-century theological treatise is an essential step in determining the text's original rhetorical intent.

- A. True
- B. False

3. When a scholar identifies that a peer-reviewed article on neuroethics was funded by a specific pharmaceutical conglomerate, they are engaging in the critical reading task of identifying _____.

- A. Syntactic ambiguity
- B. Causal fallacies
- C. Institutional bias
- D. Alliteration

4. A 12th-grade student encounters a legal brief that uses archaic Latin terminology. A critical reader should prioritize which of the following to evaluate the document's validity?

- A. The aesthetic appeal of the calligraphy used in the original scroll.
- B. How many times the author uses the word 'justice' throughout the text.
- C. The consistency of logic between the stated premises and the final judicial conclusion.
- D. The number of pages because length correlates with legal accuracy.

5. In a comparative analysis of two manifestos, a reader notes that while both advocate for reform, one relies on 'pathos' while the other relies on 'logos.' The reader is _____ the rhetorical strategies of the texts.

- A. Summarizing
- B. Contrastive Analyzing
- C. Plagiarizing
- D. Transcribing

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6. Which of the following scenarios represents the highest level of 'Synthesis' in a critical reading context?

- A. Underlining all the nouns in a sonnet by Elizabeth Barrett Browning.
- B. Defining the vocabulary words found in the glossary of a biology textbook.
- C. Integrating findings from a sociological study and a historical diary to build a new theory on urban migration.
- D. Reporting the date of the Battle of Hastings after reading a Wikipedia entry.

7. The concept of 'death of the author' suggests that a critical reader should ignore the author's biography and focus entirely on the text's internal mechanics and the reader's own construction of meaning.

- A. True
- B. False

8. When reading a data-driven report, a critical reader notices that the Y-axis of a graph is truncated to exaggerate a trend. This is an example of identifying _____ in visual arguments.

- A. Statistical manipulation
- B. Numerical perfection
- C. Graphic design trends
- D. Implicit metaphors

9. An op-ed regarding urban planning mentions 'the inevitable march of progress.' A critical reader would recognize this phrase as a(n):

- A. Unverifiable empirical fact based on physics.
- B. Loaded ideological assumption that requires questioning.
- C. Footnote reference for a census report.
- D. Neutral synonym for population growth.

10. In the context of 'Socratic Interrogation' of a text, the reader's primary goal is to find the single correct answer provided by the author.

- A. True
- B. False