

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Your Inception into Critical Reading: College Basics

This quiz assesses foundational recall of critical reading concepts, focusing on distinguishing objective evidence from subjective claims in academic texts.

1. Which of the following best defines the primary goal of the 'Initial Survey' phase in critical reading at the collegiate level?

Answer: B) To gain an overview of the author's main thesis and document structure.

At the college level, the initial survey is a scaffolding technique used to understand the framework of an argument before diving into deep analysis.

2. True or False: A scholarly peer-reviewed journal article is generally considered more reliable than a standard editorial in a lifestyle magazine.

Answer: A) True

Peer-reviewed articles undergo rigorous vetting by experts, making them higher-tier evidence in a formal hierarchy of sources.

3. When a reader identifies the specific group of people an author intends to reach, they are identifying the _____.

Answer: C) Target Audience

Identifying the target audience is a recall-level task that helps the reader understand the context and potential bias of the rhetoric used.

4. In the context of critical reading, which statement qualifies as an objective fact rather than a subjective opinion?

Answer: A) The 19th Amendment was ratified in 1920, granting women the right to vote.

A fact is a statement that can be verified through historical records or data, whereas words like 'most important' or 'brave' are evaluative opinions.

5. True or False: Critical reading requires the reader to accept the author's claims as true without looking for supporting evidence.

Answer: B) False

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The core of critical reading is the active questioning and verification of claims rather than passive acceptance.

6. An author's _____ is their underlying preference or prejudice for or against a particular subject or group.

Answer: C) Bias

Bias refers to the perspective that influences an author's objectivity; identifying it is a foundational step in source evaluation.

7. Which question would a critical reader ask to evaluate the 'Credibility' of a source?

Answer: C) What are the author's qualifications and professional background?

Credibility is established by the expertise and authority of the individual or organization producing the content.

8. True or False: Annotating a text by writing notes in the margins is a common technique used in the critical reading process.

Answer: A) True

Annotation is a formative strategy used to engage with the text, track arguments, and highlight key evidence.

9. In a formal argument, the _____ is the central claim that the author is attempting to prove.

Answer: B) Thesis

The thesis statement serves as the anchor for the entire text, providing the primary point that all subsequent evidence aims to support.

10. What is the term for the specific reason an author writes a text, such as to persuade, inform, or entertain?

Answer: C) Author's Purpose

Understanding the author's purpose is vital for critical reading as it explains the intent behind the choice of evidence and language.