

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

## Answer Key: Think and Link: Critical Reading Skills for 7th Grade

Students practice recall by identifying bias, claims, and editorial purposes within contemporary media snippets and persuasive arguments.

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**1. An author writes an article titled 'The Hidden Dangers of Video Games' but only interviews parents who dislike gaming. This is an example of:**

**Answer:** C) Author bias

Bias occurs when an author presents only one side of an issue or selects sources that only support their pre-existing opinion.

**2. True or False: In critical reading, a 'claim' is the main point or argument that the author wants the reader to believe.**

**Answer:** A) True

A claim is a central statement that an author tries to prove or support through evidence throughout their writing.

**3. Which of the following phrases is usually an indicator of an opinion rather than a fact?**

**Answer:** C) 'I believe that...'

Phrases like 'I believe,' 'I feel,' or 'In my view' signal a subjective opinion rather than an objective, verifiable fact.

**4. Why is it important to check the 'source' of an article when you are reading critically?**

**Answer:** B) To determine if the information is coming from a reliable expert

The reliability of a source helps readers decide if the information is trustworthy and based on expertise or facts.

**5. True or False: If an author uses emotional language like 'terrible' or 'amazing,' they are likely expressing an opinion.**

**Answer:** A) True

Adjectives that show judgment or emotion are markers of subjective opinions, not neutral facts.

**6. When a reader looks for the 'intended audience,' they are trying to figure out \_\_\_\_\_.**

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

**Answer:** A) Who the author is writing for

The 'intended audience' is the specific group of people the author expects will read and respond to their work.

**7. Which of these is a FACT about the Great Barrier Reef?**

**Answer:** C) It is located in the Coral Sea off the coast of Australia.

A fact is something that can be proven true or false. Geographic location is a verifiable fact, while beauty and fear are opinions.

**8. True or False: Critical reading means finding things to dislike about every book you read.**

**Answer:** B) False

Critical reading isn't about being 'negative'; it means evaluating and questioning a text deeply to understand it better.

**9. An author's 'purpose' refers to whether they are trying to persuade, inform, or \_\_\_\_\_ the reader.**

**Answer:** B) Entertain

The three most common purposes for writing are to persuade (change minds), inform (give facts), or entertain (provide enjoyment).

**10. If you read a movie review that says 'The acting was poor,' you are reading a(n):**

**Answer:** C) Subjective opinion

Judging the quality of acting is subjective because it depends on the viewer's personal taste.