

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Claim Your Edge: 11th Grade Critical Reading Challenge

Solidify your foundational comprehension by identifying biased rhetoric, verifying evidence sources, and distinguishing objective claims from subjective influence.

1. A literary critic writes: 'The stark, monochromatic cinematography in the film evokes a sense of profound isolation.' In critical reading, how is this statement classified?

Answer: B) An analytical opinion based on visual style

While 'monochromatic' describes a factual aspect of the film, the interpretation of 'profound isolation' is a subjective analytical opinion.

2. True or False: In critical reading, questioning the author's credentials is a necessary step in evaluating the reliability of a technical argument.

Answer: A) True

Evaluating the source's expertise is a fundamental part of determining if the evidence presented is credible and trustworthy.

3. When a writer includes only data that supports their hypothesis while ignoring conflicting studies, they are demonstrating ____.

Answer: B) Confirmation bias

Confirmation bias involves selecting information that bolsters a specific viewpoint while disregarding evidence that contradicts it.

4. Which of the following is an example of an objective fact that could be used as evidence in a critical reading of a historical text?

Answer: B) The document was signed on July 4th, 1776.

Dates of historical events are verifiable facts, whereas descriptions of feelings or 'importance' are interpretive.

5. True or False: The primary goal of an 'active reader' is to memorize every sentence in the text for later recall.

Answer: B) False

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Critical reading focuses on questioning, analyzing, and evaluating the text rather than rote memorization.

6. Identifying the ___ of a document helps a critical reader understand why certain information was included and why other details might have been omitted.

Answer: C) Author's purpose

The author's purpose (to persuade, inform, or entertain) dictates the framing of the content and any potential bias.

7. You are reading an editorial regarding urban planning. Which of these questions best represents the 'Analyzing Arguments' phase of critical reading?

Answer: C) Is the author's conclusion supported by the provided traffic statistics?

Analyzing arguments involves looking at the relationship between the claims made and the evidence provided to support them.

8. A text that uses words like 'revolutionary,' 'disastrous,' and 'unprecedented' is likely using ___ to influence the reader's emotions.

Answer: C) Loaded language

Loaded language refers to words with strong emotional connotations intended to sway the reader's opinion.

9. True or False: An opinion can be considered a 'well-supported claim' if it is backed by empirical evidence and logical reasoning.

Answer: A) True

In academic writing, a claim (an argumentative opinion) is validated when it is supported by facts and sound logic.

10. When evaluating a source's reliability, which of the following provides the most credible evidence for a scientific claim?

Answer: D) A peer-reviewed journal article

Peer-reviewed articles undergo rigorous checking by other experts in the field, making them the gold standard for credible evidence.