

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

## Sophomore Sluice: The Critical Reading Current

Follow the flow of information to spot rhetorical tricks and verify facts in modern media and investigative journalism.

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**1. An editorial author writes, 'The proposed city park expansion is a vibrant lung for our choking urban landscape.' This statement is best classified as:**

- A. A verifiable scientific fact
- B. A figurative opinion used for persuasion
- C. An objective historical account
- D. A statistical analysis

**2. True or False: If an article includes specific dates and locations, it is automatically free from author bias.**

- A. True
- B. False

**3. When a reader looks for the \_\_\_\_\_, they are trying to identify the specific group of people the author intended to reach with their message.**

- A. Target audience
- B. Publication date
- C. Glossary
- D. Table of contents

**4. Which of the following serves as the most reliable evidence for a claim about the safety of a new electric car?**

- A. A viral social media post from a car enthusiast
- B. A television commercial produced by the car manufacturer
- C. A report from an independent national highway safety institute
- D. A personal blog post about a test drive

**5. True or False: Critical reading requires you to evaluate the logic of an argument even if you already agree with the author's conclusion.**

- A. True
- B. False

**6. To determine the author's \_\_\_\_\_, a reader should ask why the text was written—whether to inform, persuade, or entertain.**

- A. Vocabulary
- B. Purpose
- C. Length

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D. Font style

**7. Which of these is a fact rather than an opinion in a movie review?**

- A. The lead actor gave a breathtaking performance.
- B. The film ran for 124 minutes.
- C. The soundtrack was much too loud for the dialogue.
- D. The director's previous film was much better than this one.

**8. When a blogger writes, 'Everyone knows that plastic straws are the absolute worst part of ocean pollution,' they are using a \_\_\_\_\_ to make a claim.**

- A. Generalization
- B. Footnote
- C. Citing of a source
- D. Mathematical formula

**9. A student is reading a news article about a new law. To practice critical reading, which question should they ask first?**

- A. How many words are in this article?
- B. What font was used by the publisher?
- C. What evidence supports the claims about this law's impact?
- D. Is the article printed on recycled paper?

**10. True or False: An author's tone—whether it is angry, sarcastic, or professional—can help a reader identify their bias.**

- A. True
- B. False