

Name: _____ Date: _____

Acing the Algorithms: College Critical Reading Challenge

Epistemological framing, dialectical synthesis, and logical fallacies—sharpen your ability to dismantle sophisticated rhetoric and identify systemic bias in academic discourse.

1. A researcher publishes a paper on urban planning but fails to disclose that their primary funding comes from a major real estate developer. Which critical reading lens is most essential here?

- A. Syntactic analysis
- B. Conflict of interest and institutional bias
- C. Chronological sequencing
- D. Morphological evaluation

2. When an author assumes that because Event A preceded Event B, Event A must have caused Event B, they are committing the _____ fallacy.

- A. Ad Hominem
- B. Post Hoc Ergo Propter Hoc
- C. Straw Man
- D. Slippery Slope

3. True or False: In a peer-reviewed dialectical analysis, a 'synthesis' is simply a summary of the author's original thesis without considering the antithesis.

- A. True
- B. False

4. Which of the following best describes the 'hermeneutics of suspicion' as a critical reading strategy?

- A. Reading a text precisely as the author intended it to be read.
- B. Scanning a text quickly for keywords to save time during exams.
- C. Approaching a text by looking for hidden political, social, or psychological motivations.
- D. Checking a bibliography for formatting errors and broken links.

5. True or False: Identifying the 'occluded' or missing perspectives in a historical narrative is a core component of critical evaluation.

- A. True
- B. False

6. The process of _____ involve situating a text within its specific social, political, and economic era to understand its rhetorical exigency.

- A. Decontextualization
- B. Contextualization
- C. Summarization
- D. Transcription

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7. An editorial uses highly emotive language and 'loaded terms' to describe a new policy. A critical reader should primarily analyze this as an appeal to:

- A. Logos
- B. Pathos
- C. Ethos
- D. Kairos

8. True or False: Deductive reasoning moves from specific observations to a broad, generalized conclusion.

- A. True
- B. False

9. If a literary critic examines a novel focusing on the distribution of wealth and class struggle, they are likely utilizing a _____ theoretical framework.

- A. Marxist
- B. Formalist
- C. New Critical
- D. Biographical

10. When evaluating a scientific abstract, which of the following represents the most 'critical' engagement?

- A. Accepting the findings because the author has a PhD.
- B. Highlighting the main thesis statement in yellow.
- C. Interrogating the methodology for potential variables that were not controlled.
- D. Memorizing the publication date for a future quiz.