

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

## Answer Key: When Essays Collide: The 8th Grade Genre Showdown

Step into the editor's shoes to analyze how structural choices and evidence types differentiate a formal rebuttal from a colorful memoir.

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**1. An author writing about the ethical implications of the 19th-century Silk Road trade uses primary source documents to build a logical case. Which essay type is being utilized?**

**Answer:** C) Argumentative

Argumentative essays use logic and external evidence, such as primary sources, to support a specific claim or position.

**2. A technical manual explaining how a jet engine functions is considered an expository essay because its primary goal is to inform the reader through facts.**

**Answer:** A) True

Expository writing is defined by its purpose to explain, inform, or define a specific topic using a logical structure.

**3. In a \_\_\_\_ essay, the writer's main objective is to move the audience to action or change their belief using emotional appeals (pathos) and credibility (ethos).**

**Answer:** B) Persuasive

Persuasive essays specifically focus on changing the reader's mind, often utilizing the rhetorical triangle: ethos, pathos, and logos.

**4. Which of the following would be the most appropriate thesis statement for a descriptive essay about the Amazon Rainforest?**

**Answer:** C) The damp heat of the jungle floor smells of decaying leaves and ancient moss.

Descriptive essays focus on sensory details (smell, touch, sight) to create a 'word picture' rather than debating or just stating cold facts.

**5. If you are writing a \_\_\_\_ essay about a childhood memory, you should focus on a clear plot arc, including a climax and a resolution.**

**Answer:** B) Narrative

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

Narrative essays are structured like stories, requiring a narrative arc with a beginning, middle, and end.

**6. The main difference between an argumentative essay and a persuasive essay is that the argumentative essay must acknowledge and address counterarguments.**

**Answer:** A) True

While both involve stances, argumentative writing is more formal and requires evaluating opposing viewpoints with evidence.

**7. An essay comparing the architectural styles of the Chrysler Building and the Burj Khalifa without taking a side is an example of which mode?**

**Answer:** B) Expository

Comparison/contrast essays that aim to inform the reader about similarities and differences are a sub-type of expository writing.

**8. A 'Call to Action' is a common concluding element found most frequently in the \_\_\_\_ essay type.**

**Answer:** A) Persuasive

Persuasive essays conclude by asking the reader to do something specific or adopt a new perspective.

**9. In a narrative essay, the writer should generally avoid using 'I' or personal pronouns to maintain an objective tone.**

**Answer:** B) False

Narrative essays often describe personal experiences and frequently use first-person point of view ('I').

**10. Which transition word would be most effective in an expository essay explaining the sequence of an scientific experiment?**

**Answer:** C) Subsequently

'Subsequently' is a chronological transition perfect for step-by-step explanations in expository or process writing.