

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Drafting Discourse: 10th Grade Rhetorical Analysis & Essay Styles Quiz

Sophomores tackle 10 specific challenges to distinguish between analytical synthesis, logical refutation, and sensory-driven narrative structures.

1. An author is writing a piece analyzing the impact of the printing press on the Protestant Reformation. Which essay type and organizational structure would be most appropriate for this sophomore-level assignment?

Answer: B) Expository; cause-and-effect analysis

Expository essays are designed to explain complex relationships, such as how a technological advancement (the printing press) resulted in social change (the Reformation).

2. In a formal argumentative essay, the section where a writer acknowledges a valid point from the opposing side before proving why their own claim is still superior is known as the _____.

Answer: C) Concession and Rebuttal

Advanced argumentation requires a concession (acknowledging the other side) followed by a rebuttal (refuting it) to build rhetorical credibility.

3. True or False: A descriptive essay must prioritize objective, clinical facts over the use of figurative language like metaphors and personification.

Answer: B) False

Descriptive essays rely heavily on imagery and figurative language to create a vivid 'word portrait' for the reader, which is often subjective rather than clinical.

4. Which of the following thesis statements best represents a 10th-grade level persuasive essay targeting a policy change?

Answer: C) The city council should reallocate 5% of the park budget to library tech centers to bridge the digital divide.

Option C offers a specific, debatable, and actionable claim, which is the hallmark of a high-school level persuasive thesis.

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5. While a narrative essay often uses a first-person perspective to tell a story, an expository essay on global economics should typically maintain a _____ to ensure objectivity.

Answer: B) Third-person formal tone

The third-person formal tone removes personal bias and focus, which is essential for the informative and factual nature of expository writing.

6. True or False: The primary goal of a narrative essay is to provide a step-by-step instructional guide on how to complete a task.

Answer: B) False

Narrative essays focus on storytelling and character/plot development. A step-by-step guide is a form of expository/procedural writing.

7. A student is writing an essay titled 'The Silent Architecture of Ants,' focusing on the intricate tunnels and temperature control systems within an anthill. What is the most likely essay type?

Answer: B) Descriptive

Focusing on 'architecture' and 'intricate tunnels' suggests a deep dive into the sensory and structural details, which characterizes the descriptive essay.

8. In an argumentative essay, the 'Ethos' rhetorical appeal refers to the author's attempt to establish _____.

Answer: C) Credibility and character

Ethos is one of the three Aristotelian appeals used in persuasive and argumentative writing to verify the writer's expertise or moral standing.

9. True or False: An expository essay exploring the similarities between the French Revolution and the Haitian Revolution would likely utilize a 'Compare and Contrast' organization.

Answer: A) True

Compare and contrast is a standard organizational pattern for expository essays when the goal is to inform the reader about the relationship between two entities.

10. Which transition word or phrase is most indicative of a shift toward a counter-argument in an advanced persuasive piece?

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Answer: C) Conversely

'Conversely' signals a shift to an opposing viewpoint, which is critical for structuring the counter-argument phase of a high school essay.