

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

## Secrets of the Subtext: A 9th Grade Critical Reading Expedition

Examine rhetorical strategies and power dynamics in complex texts to reveal the hidden agendas behind persuasive writing.

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**1. Read the following sentence from an editorial: 'While some naively cling to outdated traditions, the forward-thinking community recognizes the inevitable necessity of the new transit hub.' Which critical reading technique best identifies the author's underlying bias?**

- A. Analyzing the use of loaded language and binary oppositions.
- B. Verifying the historical dates of the community's founding.
- C. Counting the number of adjectives used in the sentence.
- D. Identifying the subject-verb agreement within the independent clause.

**2. A reader who evaluates a text by examining the social, political, and cultural environment in which it was written is utilizing \_\_\_\_\_ to deepen their understanding of the author's intent.**

- A. syntactic variety
- B. historical contextualization
- C. phonetic decoding
- D. linear progression

**3. True or False: In a critical analysis, identifying a 'logical fallacy' means the author's overall conclusion must automatically be considered false.**

- A. True
- B. False

**4. When assessing a scientific argument presented in a popular magazine, which of these represents the highest level of critical evaluation?**

- A. Check if the author has a PhD in an unrelated field.
- B. Determine if the article was published in the last five years.
- C. Synthesize the data provided with findings from peer-reviewed journals to identify discrepancies.
- D. Summarize the main points of the article in a three-sentence paragraph.

**5. A critical reader notices that an author frequently omits any mention of the economic costs of a proposed policy. This strategic omission is known as \_\_\_\_\_ and indicates an attempt to shape the reader's perception.**

- A. alliteration
- B. hyperbole
- C. cherry-picking
- D. bracketing

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**6. True or False: Annotating a text by only underlining interesting sentences is considered an advanced form of critical reading.**

- A. True
- B. False

**7. Read this claim: 'The implementation of AI in classrooms will inevitably destroy the student-teacher bond.' What is the most significant critical flaw in this argument?**

- A. It uses a comma splice in the middle of the sentence.
- B. It relies on a slippery slope fallacy without providing empirical evidence of the 'inevitable' outcome.
- C. The sentence is too short to be considered a valid argument.
- D. The author didn't define what 'AI' stands for in the text.

**8. When examining an author's \_\_\_\_\_, a reader analyzes the underlying assumptions that the author takes for granted as being true without providing explicit proof.**

- A. lexical density
- B. presuppositions
- C. orthography
- D. chronological markers

**9. Which of the following questions promotes the most 'evaluative' level of reading regarding a text about global trade?**

- A. What are the three main exports mentioned in the second paragraph?
- B. How many countries are listed in the author's primary chart?
- C. Whose voices or perspectives are specifically excluded from this discussion of profit?
- D. Which dictionary definition of 'trade' best fits this context?

**10. True or False: Using a 'hermeneutic of suspicion' means a reader approaches a text by assuming the author is intentionally lying.**

- A. True
- B. False