

THE RESPONSE ESSAY

Rhetorical Critique—Questions That Might Be Addressed

1. How well does the text suit its particular audience and purpose?
2. How has the genre affected the author's style, structure, and use of evidence?
3. How do the author's language choices and sentence length and complexity contribute to the impact of the text?
4. How well has the author created a reasonable, logically structured argument?
5. How reputable, relevant, current, sufficient, and representative is the evidence?
6. How well does the author persuade readers that he or she is knowledgeable, reliable, credible, and trustworthy?
7. How well does the writer appeal to readers' emotions, sympathies, and values?
8. How much does the author's angle of vision or interpretive filter dominate the text, influencing what is emphasized or omitted?

Ideas Critique—Questions That Might Be Addressed

1. Where do I agree with the author?
2. What new insights has this text given me?
3. Where do I disagree with the author?
4. What points has the author overlooked or omitted?
5. What new questions or problems has the text raised?
6. What are the limitations or consequences of this text?

Reflection—Questions That Might Be Addressed

1. What personal memories or experiences does this text trigger?
2. What personal values or beliefs does this text reinforce or challenge?
3. What questions, dilemmas, or problems does this text raise for me?
4. What new insights, ideas, or thoughts of my own have been stimulated by this text?