

Analytical and critical writing are common types of writing in college, and most professors will expect you to respond to their prompts with in-depth responses. While explaining evidence and cover the entire prompt. This handout will

you through how to approach and respond to these writing assignments.

In the context of academia, analytical writing is the evaluation of writing elements, structure, and reasoning. This type of writing is important because it thoroughly explains aspects of the topic, article, or claim. Therefore, analytical writing is necessary when responding to or evaluating other articles and readings, but it can also be used when explaining large abstract concepts or complicated topics.

Brentson states in his article from *Ocean Ecosystems* caused a 26% increase in death rates among clownfish due to the poisonous toxins from clownfish, but that their increased death rates are directly correlated to plastic toxins. Additionally, considering their wide diet. Due to their significant impact, their increased death rate is alarming. stic toxins or harming marine life and negatively impacting the functionality of marine ecosystems.

Critical writing is similar to analytical writing in that it evaluates and analyzes other writing. However, critical writing goes beyond analysis by also developing an argument. Critical writing is often used for evaluating the efficacy and quality of multiple sources, such as literature reviews and critical responses.

article on marine ecosystems provides an overview of the many significant issues that are impacting marine life. His article most importantly focuses on the issue with toxic plastics, but it also evaluates waste management systems and chemical usage. While
-related consequences of
large vehicles like cruise ships and large cargo ships.

This example shows how the writer evaluated and commented on the sources, but then argued that one source provided more information on a topic. This claim demonstrates how the writer has not only read the articles at hand, but they have also critically reviewed the connections between research and information.

Critical writing shares some features of

Below are some examples of assignment descriptions and explanations of what steps would be helpful to take when responding to them
combine aspects of critical and analytical writing depending on the assignment.

Instructions

(The professor explains that the student will re-read some content for the essay. For the purpose of this activity, this portion has been removed.)

Write a Critique Essay (3-4 pages, approx. 1000 words) of the chapter, following these steps:

Step 1: Choose a rhetorical situation for your assignment, and write it at the top of your document. (Note: Please choose a rhetorical situation for this assignment that is a realistic situation you might encounter in your future academic and/or professional life!)

Step 2: Then, write a Critique Essay (3-4 pages, approx. 1000 words) of the article that reflects your rhetorical situation (e.g., uses rhetorical, organizational, and/or linguistic features that appeal to your audience) and includes the following sections.

An introduction paragraph that

- a) introduces the topic and rhetorical situation of the article;
- b) includes a thesis statement that states the author's purpose, whether or not they were successful in achieving it, and how/why (i.e., the specific rhetorical features and/or kind of evidence they used).

Summary paragraph(s) that

- a) paraphrases the main ideas of the chapter (use your summary assignment here!);
- b) uses reporting/signal verbs and phrases, transitions, quotations, and in-text citations (APA or MLA style).

Evaluation paragraph(s) that

- a) evaluates the quality of the evidence and/or rhetorical features used (use your evaluation assignment here!);

b) uses evaluative language, transitions, quotations, and in-text citations (APA or MLA style).

A conclusion paragraph that

a) restates the thesis statement from the introduction;

b) points to directions for future action or research needed.

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