

## 9 The three tasks and what each rewards – Part 2

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

### Vocabulary

*Write each word three times.*

**English**

**Write it 3 times** (English)

synthesis

\_\_\_\_\_

### Recall

- You know the three essay types ask for different things.
- You have used the wrong approach on a task and lost marks for good writing.
- You know the sources in a synthesis question are given for a reason.

### New ideas

Read these first. Each idea has a short worked example. Then do the Practice below.

#### ■ 1 Synthesis

A **synthesis** essay argues a position using provided sources. The sources support your argument; the essay is not a report on what they say.

*Worked example.* Using two sources to establish one of your claims is synthesis; summarising six sources in turn is not.

#### ■ 2 Rhetorical analysis

A rhetorical analysis explains **how** a text achieves its purpose for its audience. It does not evaluate whether the argument is right.

*Worked example.* Explaining why the writer opens with a concession is analysis; saying the writer is correct is not.

### ■ 3 Argument

An argument essay defends your own position on a question, with your own evidence. The evidence may come from anywhere you know well - history, reading, observation - provided it is specific.

*Worked example.* A precisely described historical case supports an argument; “throughout history, people have...” supports nothing.

**Watch out:** The commonest and most expensive error is writing the wrong essay: summarising sources in a synthesis, evaluating the argument in an analysis, or analysing style in an argument essay.

## Practice

2.1 State what a synthesis essay does with its sources. [2]

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2.2 State what a rhetorical analysis explains and what it does not. [2]

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2.3 State what an argument essay defends and with what. [2]

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2.4 Explain why “throughout history, people have...” supports nothing. [2]

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2.5 Name the wrong-essay error for each of the three tasks. [3]

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