1. Claims, Evidence, and the Rhetorical Situation

Starter Quiz ·

AP English Language and Composition Name: _____ Score: _____

1. The exigence of a text is...

   ☐ the text's main idea

   ☐ what the writer wants to achieve

   ☐ the audience's beliefs

   ☐ what prompted the writer to write it

2. The test for whether a sentence is a claim is...

   ☐ does it use evidence?

   ☐ is it long enough?

   ☐ is it true?

   ☐ could a reasonable person disagree?

3. Commentary in a body paragraph should explain...

   ☐ what the evidence says

   ☐ how long the source is

   ☐ how the evidence supports the claim

   ☐ who wrote the source

4. Select **all** the components of the rhetorical situation the CED names.

   ☐ purpose

   ☐ exigence

   ☐ audience

   ☐ word count

   Tick every correct option.

5. Select **all** that the CED lists as types of evidence.

   ☐ statistics

   ☐ anecdotes

   ☐ page numbers

   ☐ analogies

   Tick every correct option.

6. Select **all** the sentence openers that force a relationship rather than a restatement.

   ☐ in the quotation

   ☐ so

   ☐ which means

   ☐ because

   Tick every correct option.

7. A text can have more than one purpose.

   ☐ True ☐ False

8. Building quoted material into your own sentence is called _____ embedding.

   _____

9. Evidence and commentary together are worth four of the six rubric points.

   ☐ True ☐ False

10. The time, place and occasion in which a text is created is its _____.

    _____

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Answers ·

AP English Language and Composition

1. **what prompted the writer to write it**

   Exigence is the trigger; **purpose** is the aim. They are separate components.

2. **could a reasonable person disagree?**

   A true statement nobody disputes has nothing to defend and cannot anchor a paragraph.

3. **how the evidence supports the claim**

   Restating the evidence is not commentary; explaining the **relationship** is.

4. **purpose; exigence; audience**

   Word count is not a component; the six are exigence, purpose, audience, writer, context and message.

5. **statistics; anecdotes; analogies**

   The CED's list is deliberately wide, but page numbers are citation, not evidence.

6. **so; which means; because**

   "In the quotation" invites a restatement; the other three demand a link.

7. **True**

   The CED states this explicitly – writers may pursue several aims at once.

8. **syntactic**

   Syntactic embedding is how source material is related to the writer's own argument.

9. **True**

   That is why a paragraph with evidence but no commentary is capped well below the top marks.

10. **context**

    Context surrounds the whole situation; it is not the same as the exigence.