

## 7 Sophisticated commentary and revising a reading – Part 2

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

### Vocabulary

*Write each word three times.*

#### English

#### Write it 3 times (English)

alternative inter-  
pretations

revision

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\_\_\_\_\_

### Recall

- You have defended an answer you had already stopped believing.
- You know an essay that considers the other side sounds stronger.
- You have found a passage that contradicted your whole argument.

### New ideas

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

#### ■ 1 Three sophisticated moves

Stronger arguments explain an interpretation's significance in a broader context, discuss **alternative interpretations**, or use relevant analogies. All three make the argument clearer, not more ornate.

*Worked example.* Naming a rival reading and showing why yours accounts for more shows the claim has been tested.

#### ■ 2 Evidence may require revision

Textual evidence may require **revision** of an interpretation if it does not sufficiently support it. Revision is built into the process, not a failure of it.

*Worked example.* If defending a claim means explaining away what a character plainly does, the claim needs changing.

### ■ 3 Relevance of an analogy

An analogy must be **relevant** - it must make the interpretation easier to grasp. One that needs its own explanation has cost more than it gave.

*Worked example.* A comparison to something the reader knows well illuminates; one to something obscure does not.

**Watch out:** Holding an interpretation against the evidence is not loyalty to a reading. It is a refusal to read.

## Practice

2.1 Name the three sophisticated moves. [3]

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2.2 Explain what discussing an alternative interpretation shows. [2]

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2.3 State when textual evidence requires revision. [2]

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2.4 Name two signs that a claim needs revising. [2]

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2.5 State what makes an analogy relevant. [2]

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