

# Critical Analysis

A portion of analytical thinking requires the critic to break down aspects of another writer's opinions. This can be achieved by:

- sum up the main points of an article
- determine the level of bias within the piece
- confirm if both sides of an issue are treated fairly
- acknowledge if the author proposes a compromise or a preference
- check the author's credentials and background

I. In the Library Database, from the Academic Search Complete database, select an article relevant to a possible topic of interest for your final research paper.

- A. Do not select material which states the article is a *review* or an *overview* of an issue.
- B. Do not select material over ten pages.

## II. OBJECTIVES

1. *Confirm subject matter and comprehension of material.*
2. Read the chosen article, highlighting key phrases and points discussed by the critic.
3. In 300 words (1 page) create a synopsis of the essay following the items below:
  - Explain the author's main points and show his/her major defenses.
  - State what evidence is used as defense; sum up the basic idea of article.
  - Does the author show a bias towards either side of the issue?
  - What does the author resolve in the conclusion of the piece?
  - Based on your own reading of the material, do you agree/disagree with the critic's opinions?
  - Be sure to show proper citation of quoted/paraphrased material.
  - Use at least one quote of major importance.
  - Supply correct MLA work cited entry at base of your paper

III. Print out your reply in MLA format.

Print out article with your responses, STAPLED together.

DUE: 10/22.

article synopsis