

Cornell Motes

Evaluating Arguments in Nonfiction

Today's Standard

8.W.9b - Apply grade 8 Reading standards to literary nonfiction (e.g., 'Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced').

Cues	Notes
What is the main argument?	Main argument: The central claim or thesis of the text.
What evidence is presented?	Evidence: Facts, statistics, quotes, or examples used to support the argument.
Is the evidence relevant?	Relevance: How directly the evidence supports the main argument.
Is the reasoning sound?	Reasoning: The logical connections between the argument and the
Are there any logical fallacies?	evidence.
	Logical fallacies: Errors in reasoning that weaken the argument.

Summary

Evaluating arguments in nonfiction involves analyzing the main argument, assessing the relevance and quality of evidence, and identifying logical fallacies.