

CRITICAL THINKING: MY POSITION

This is an example of how to use the student activity guide on page I-D-33. The same process can be used for a song, book, situation comedy on television, or television commercial (especially on alcohol or cigarettes).

Name of subject analyzed: Eternity cologne for men ad

1. Identify and describe the problem or situation:
Should I purchase an expensive cologne?

2. Discriminate between facts and opinions about the subject.
List some facts:
A. It is made for men
B. The cost is expensive (list dollar amount if possible)
C. Can be purchased at department stores

List some opinions:
A. It smells good
B. The girls like it
C. It will make me popular

3. What positions can you take about the subject and what would be the consequences? (What alternatives do you have?)
A. Alternative #1: To purchase cologne
Consequence: It would take most of my allowance/college money
B. Alternative #2: To purchase an acceptable, less expensive brand
Consequence: I would have money left to save for college

4. Identify personal or family values that conflict with this subject.
My family values education and any extra money is saved for my college.
My parents don't like me to make trivial purchases using my savings.

5. What is your decision/position? I will buy an acceptable less expensive brand of cologne.
Defend your position based on logic. (How will you respond if asked for your opinion/position about this subject?) The only resource available to purchase cologne is my allowance or savings. By buying a less expensive cologne, I could use my allowance and not have to go into my savings.

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

CRITICAL THINKING: MY POSITION

Directions: Analyze a movie, book, song, television show, advertisement, or newspaper article according to the critical thinking criteria below:

Name of subject analyzed: _____

1. Identify and describe the problem or situation:

2. Discriminate between facts and opinions about the subject.

List some facts:

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

List some opinions:

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

3. What positions can you take about the subject and what would be the consequences? (What alternatives do you have?)

A. Alternative #1: _____

Consequence: _____

B. Alternative #2: _____

Consequence: _____

4. Identify personal or family values that conflict with this subject.

5. What is your decision/position? _____

Defend your position based on logic. (How will you respond if asked for your opinion/position about this subject?)

