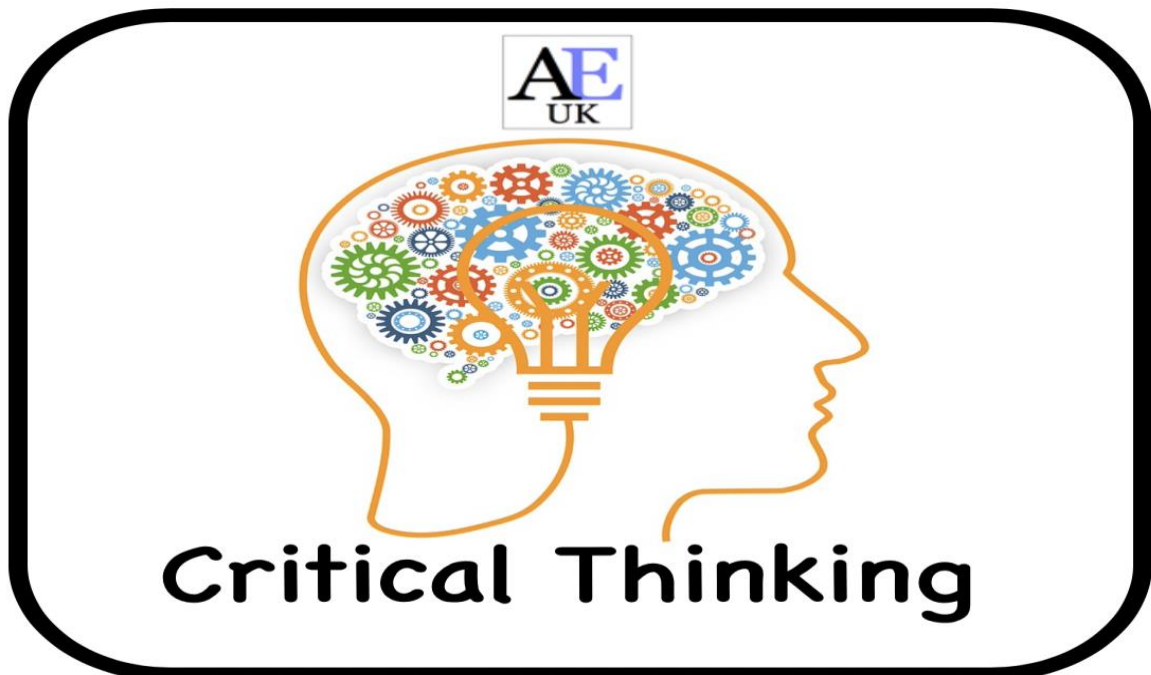


# AE Academic English UK

## Critical Thinking



## Reading Text Analysis 3

Climate Change  
EXAMPLE

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## Critical Thinking: Reading Text Analysis 3

### EXAMPLE

#### Lesson Plan

**Aim:** to provide quality practice in developing analytical critical reading skills.

#### 1. Preparation

- Reading text 'Climate Change: The Turning Point' for each student. [Page 3](#)
- Answer sheet (one sheet between two). [Page 4-5](#)

#### 2. Introduction

- Ask students to discuss: 'What is critical reading?'
- Try to elicit key terms and ideas: *questioning / critique / analysis / evaluation / validity / evidence / bias / opinion / stance / credibility / reliability / synthesis.*
- **EXTRA IDEAS! Go here:** *Critical thinking Dictogloss / Critical thinking videos / Bloom's Higher-level thinking skills* <https://www.academic-englishuk.com/critical-thinking>

#### 3. Set up

- Hand out the reading text 'Climate Change: The Turning Point'.
- Explain that you want the students to apply the critical thinking skills of analysing and evaluating to the text.
- Give examples of the two terms:  
**Analysis is to draw connections among ideas:** to examine / to question / to compare.  
**Evaluation is to justify a stand or decision:** to judge / to identify support and credibility / to appraise / to critique.

#### 4. The lesson

- As a whole group, do the first paragraph together. **Explain there are three possible problems (in fact there are seven but finding three is good).**
- Give the students 5-10 minutes to read the paragraph and try to identify areas in the paragraph can be questioned or critiqued.
- Students can conduct internet research to check information.
- Feedback individually or as a group using the answer sheet for guidance.
- Students work individually: Allow the students 20-30 minutes to read and highlight possible areas of question, critique or appraisal. **Explain there are ten possible problems to find.**

#### 5. Feedback

- Feedback in pairs - students share their ideas and justify their answers.
- Feedback as a whole class. Teacher highlights key answers and elicits other possible critiques.

**Disclaimer:** There are a variety of different answers to this activity.

## Climate Change: The Turning Point **EXAMPLE**

H. Kennedy & C. Wilson (2024)

The state of the planet perhaps has been the most widely discussed topic over the last few years. 2023 has been labelled a disastrous year for the planet, despite previous attempts at nations to join efforts in slowing down the destruction (WHO, 2024). Experts predict the Earth's surface temperature in 2023 to have surpassed 2°C, and all records regarding greenhouses gases, sea levels, sea ice, and deforestation to be shattered beyond comparison.

As [redacted] permafrost thaws, leading to a rise in sea levels, [redacted] causing more flooding, erosion and potentially [redacted] example, sea ice in both [redacted] shrinking rapidly since records began. It is "unequivocal" and "incontrovertible" <sup>(9)</sup> that the greenhouse [redacted] caused [redacted] troposphere (WHO, 2024). As reported by Gerretsen (2023), scientists claim the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2023 will be almost [redacted] increase in the [redacted] of fossil fuels. The main way to reduce the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere is through forests. However, due to [redacted], these are [redacted] rainforest [redacted] world – the Amazon – absorbs less carbon [redacted] emits (Gerretsen, 2023).

However, the International Energy Agency (IEA) says [redacted] the leading source of electricity (WHO, 2024). Nuccatelli (2024) argues that overall climate [redacted] of renewable energy sources and electric vehicles. Both Nuccatelli (2024) and Tanno (2023) state that China [redacted] in [redacted] that over half of the world's solar panels have been installed there. With regards to electric vehicles, there have [redacted], the [redacted] that more and more consumers are considering going petrol-free.

Another positive development was that according [redacted] to even lower levels than its all-time low in 2012 (Tanno, 2023). Tanno (2023) also claims that owing [redacted] in 1980, and if policies continue to be adhered to, could even recover completely. This may be seen [redacted] the [redacted] for the future. It does, however, require for the most part that all countries move away from relying on fossil fuels, [redacted] latest [redacted] (Nuccatelli, 2024).

### References

Gerretsen, I. (2023). [redacted] 2023. [online] Available at: <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20230317-the-state-of-the-climate> [Accessed 13 Feb 2024].

[redacted] *Climate news to watch in 2024*. [redacted] <https://yaleclimateconnections.org/2024/01/climate-news/> [Accessed 12 Feb 2024].

Tanno, S. (2023). [redacted] news, here are 5 [redacted] at: <https://www.cnn.com/2023/12/23/climate/climate-five-reasons- html> [Accessed 12 Feb 2024].

[redacted] at: <https://www.who.int/health-topics/CC> [Accessed 13 Feb 2024].

## Possible Critical Evaluation **ANSWERS**

The state of the planet perhaps has been the most widely discussed topic <sup>(1)</sup> over the last few years. 2023 has been labelled a disastrous year for the planet <sup>(2)</sup>, despite previous attempts at nations <sup>(3)</sup> to join efforts <sup>(4)</sup> in slowing down the destruction. Experts predict <sup>(5)</sup> the Earth's surface temperature in 2023 to have surpassed 2°C <sup>(6)</sup>, and all records regarding greenhouses gases, sea levels, sea ice, and deforestation to be shattered <sup>(7)</sup> beyond comparison.

- 1) Discussed by who? Scientists, economists, governments, the media, the public...
- 2) Disastrous in what way? Planet warming up, flooding, extreme heat, earthquakes, etc...
- 3) Which nations? All 195 countries that signed the Paris agreement in 2015 or the 123 countries who signed the COP26 in 2023 or just the main western governments?
- 4) .....

**ALL ANSWERS ARE INCLUDED IN PAID VERSION...**