# Test Questions

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OpenAI. (2025). ChatGPT. [Large language model]. <https://chat.openai.com/chat>
Prompt: *As a teacher, create a combination of 30 multiple-choice and True or False test questions for first-year college students based on the contents of the attached file: Chapter 5 - Evaluating Evidence in Academic Reading*

1. Which statement best defines a fact in academic reading?
2. A belief based on personal values
3. Verifiable information supported by objective data or reliable sources
4. Any widely shared opinion
5. An argument that relies on persuasive language

Answer: B

1. Which of the following is an example of an opinion?
	1. The Earth orbits the Sun
	2. In 2020, Canada had roughly 38 million people
	3. Shakespeare is the greatest playwright in history
	4. Water boils at 100°C at sea level

Answer: C

1. In academic work, evidence is best described as:
	1. Information used to support a claim
	2. Any data, whether relevant or not
	3. A persuasive conclusion without support
	4. A sensational headline that draws attention

Answer: A

1. Which item is NOT part of the “Bare Essentials” test for evaluating evidence?
	1. Currency
	2. Objectivity
	3. Accuracy
	4. Authority

Answer: B

1. Which option most strongly indicates reliable statistics?
	1. A viral infographic with no cited source
	2. A Statistics Canada report that explains its methodology
	3. A personal blog post sharing one person’s experience
	4. An online forum poll with unknown participants

Answer: B

1. Which is a red flag when evaluating statistics and data?
	1. Transparent methodology included with the data
	2. Percentages tied to a clearly defined sample and timeframe
	3. A claim such as “90% of people think…” with no citation or details
	4. A peer‑reviewed meta‑analysis with complete references

Answer: C

1. A personal story used to illustrate a point is best categorized as:
	1. Empirical evidence
	2. Theoretical evidence
	3. Anecdotal evidence
	4. Statistical evidence

Answer: C

1. An argument grounded in conceptual models rather than direct observation is:
	1. Empirical evidence
	2. Theoretical evidence
	3. Testimonial evidence
	4. Anecdotal evidence

Answer: B

1. Which language cue most strongly signals an opinion?
	1. “According to the data…”
	2. “Research shows…”
	3. “I believe…”
	4. “The results indicate…”

Answer: C

1. Which sentence is most likely value‑laden and therefore opinion‑based?
	1. “According to the data collected in 2024…”
	2. “The randomized trial found no significant effect.”
	3. “We must adopt the best solution immediately.”
	4. “The 2023 report documents a 12% increase.”

Answer: C

1. Which is the best place to find credible, expert‑vetted research?
	1. An anonymous blog post
	2. A peer‑reviewed journal article accessed via PubMed
	3. A social‑media thread by an influencer
	4. An unmoderated wiki entry with no sources

Answer: B

1. When checking a source, which question is most appropriate?
	1. Is it entertaining to read?
	2. Who wrote it and what are their credentials?
	3. How many likes or shares did it receive?
	4. Does it confirm my existing view?

Answer: B

1. Which sign most clearly indicates a weak source?
	1. Full references and citation trail
	2. A sensational headline with no named author
	3. Transparent methodology
	4. Publication in a peer‑reviewed journal

Answer: B

1. Which scenario best illustrates selection bias?
	1. A health study includes only urban participants
	2. A study samples multiple regions and demographics
	3. Participants are randomly assigned to conditions
	4. Researchers run a double‑blind trial

Answer: A

1. Which example best demonstrates framing bias?
	1. Reporting a procedure as “90% survive” rather than “10% die”
	2. Researchers’ expectations influence participant behavior
	3. Only selecting studies that confirm a hypothesis
	4. Relying on the first number one sees in a negotiation

Answer: A

1. Which example best demonstrates ideological bias?
	1. An article favoring a political ideology while omitting alternative views
	2. A calculation error in a dataset
	3. A formatting error in a table of results
	4. A randomized, double‑blind trial

Answer: A

1. Which situation best represents experimenter (researcher) bias?
	1. A researcher unconsciously cues participants toward the expected outcome
	2. Participants are randomly assigned and blinded
	3. The study uses a double‑blind procedure
	4. Results are evaluated by independent reviewers

Answer: A

1. Which situation best illustrates anchoring bias?
	1. The initial $300 price makes a $150 jacket seem inexpensive
	2. Comparing results across multiple independent studies
	3. Calculating the mean of a representative sample
	4. Verifying statistics against primary sources

Answer: A

1. Which is the clearest example of groupthink in decision‑making?
	1. A team suppresses dissent to preserve harmony despite concerns
	2. Team members actively encourage critique and debate
	3. Anonymous peer review identifies flaws
	4. Random sampling ensures representation

Answer: A

1. Which statement best captures implicit bias?
	1. Unconscious stereotypes affect judgments and decisions
	2. Intentional deception of research participants
	3. A calculation error in data analysis
	4. Random variability in measurement

Answer: A

**True & False**

1. Evaluating evidence helps protect readers against misinformation and baseless claims. (Answer: True)
2. Anecdotal evidence is generally as strong as empirical evidence for proving a claim. (Answer: False)
3. Government reports (e.g., national census) are examples of primary data from public institutions. (Answer: True)
4. The “Bare Essentials” test includes Purpose as one of its elements. (Answer: True)
5. If a statement begins with “Research shows…”, it should be accepted without verification. (Answer: False)
6. Strong writing links claim, evidence, and conclusion while avoiding logical fallacies. (Answer: True)
7. Double‑blind testing is one safeguard that helps reduce experimenter bias. (Answer: True)
8. Anchoring bias only affects shoppers and has no relevance to legal or policy decisions. (Answer: False)
9. Recognizing bias helps us become better thinkers and informed citizens. (Answer: True)
10. Credible sources are typically untraceable and provide no references. (Answer: False)