

Abi-Training: Analysing a non-fictional text

Englisch · Klasse 12 · mittel

Name: _____ Datum: _____

Excerpt from an opinion column (invented, for practice): „Let's be honest: nobody reads the terms and conditions. We scroll, we tick, we surrender. Forty pages of legal prose stand between us and a game, a photo filter, a bus ticket — and we click „I agree" faster than we would sign for a parcel. The companies know this. They count on it. Every „we value your privacy" banner is a small masterpiece of theatre: the show of choice without the substance of it. I do not blame the users. Blaming a swimmer for the current is a fine way to keep the river as it is. I blame a system that has turned consent into a reflex. Until a click costs the company more than it costs us, nothing will change."

1 Line of argument: Trace the author's reasoning in four steps.

Don't summarise the content — show how one point leads to the next.

- a) 1 Observation: _____
- b) 2 Explanation (who is responsible and how):

- c) 3 Rejection of an alternative view:

- d) 4 Conclusion / demand:

2 Rhetorical and stylistic devices: Name the device, quote it and explain its effect.

Climax / tricolon, metaphor, analogy, direct address / inclusive we. Effect: what does it make the reader feel or accept?

- a) „We scroll, we tick, we surrender."

- b) „a small masterpiece of theatre"

- c) „Blaming a swimmer for the current ..."

- d) „Let's be honest"

3 Tone and intention: Describe the tone in two adjectives and explain how it serves the author's intention.

Tone: ironic, sarcastic, urgent, colloquial, confrontational ... Intention: to criticise, to provoke, to mobilise.

- a) Tone: _____
- b) Intention: _____

Abi-Training: Analysing a non-fictional text (Fortsetzung)

Englisch · Klasse 12 · mittel

Name: _____ Datum: _____

c) How they fit:

.....
.....

4 Write an analysis (180 to 220 words) of the excerpt.

Abitur operator „analyse”: describe and explain the connection between what is said and how it is said.
Present tense.

a) Introduction (text type, topic, thesis), line of argument, three devices with effect, tone, conclusion on how convincing the argument is.

.....
.....