Quiz #7 Study Guide

Note:

This quiz is based on “Once More to the Lake” by E.B. White on pages 194-199 in *Patterns for College Writing*.

All page numbers in the study guide are taken from *Patterns for College Writing*.



General Items:

1. Bring a sheet of loose-leaf paper (the kind without the ripped edges) and a pen with black or blue ink.
2. You may use the textbook to complete this quiz. The instructor will give copies of the quiz only to those students who have a textbook, an electronic copy of the textbook, or a photocopy of the assigned essay. Students cannot borrow another student’s textbook or photocopy after that student has completed the quiz.
3. Even though students may use their textbooks during the quiz, they must prepare for it before the beginning of the next class. Otherwise, they may discover that they cannot answer all of the quiz items in the allotted time.
4. The quiz has five items: three multiple-choice and two brief responses.

Points to Guide Studying:

1. Read the essay “Once More to the Lake” on pages 194-199. In fact, read it more than once, and annotate it. For example, underline topic sentences, and identify any similarities and differences that E.B. White notices between his first visit to the lake in 1904 and his visit with his son some three or four decades later.
2. Be familiar with these organizational sequences: classification and division, comparison, definition, and process analysis. Consult the appropriate chapters in *Patterns for College Writing* for information about each sequence.
3. Learn the definitions of the word “biased” and of the word “unbiased.”

Key Terms:

1. Individuals demonstrate bias when they are inhibited from impartial judgment. For example, when a president writes about his years in the White House, he may present a subjective (i.e. biased) account of a politician from the opposition party. In addition, news commentators on FOX News and MSNBC are often considered biased, especially when they discuss political subjects.

A politician may describe an opponent as a “scoundrel” or a “crook,” or a television reporter may describe a new government program as a “waste of taxpayer money.” All of these terms are biased (i.e. subjective).

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Think of any other instances when individuals or even you demonstrate biased attitudes. Are there any biased comments posted on your Facebook page?

1. Individuals reflect unbiased attitudes when they are guided by impartial judgment. For instance, lawyers want unbiased jury members because such members can reach verdicts without bias. They can reach verdicts objectively, in other words.

As jury members hear the case of a young father who stole some baby formula, they would not immediately conclude that he is a “monster.” Rather, they would suspend judgment until they heard all of the circumstances regarding the case.

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Think of any other instances when individuals or even you demonstrate unbiased attitudes. What about paramedics when they record the symptoms displayed by a heart attack victim?