Argument Analysis Template (ARE *or* the 3 Questions)

Title and Author:

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| Argument | Identify the author’s main argument, idea, or thesis. |
| Reasoning  (claims and connections) | Explain the author’s line of reasoning.  1) Identify the claims used to build the argument  2) Identify the connections between the claims |
| Evaluation | Evaluate the effectiveness of the evidence the author uses to support the claims made in the argument. |

Argument Analysis (Extended)

1. What is the author’s argument/main idea?
2. What reasons does the author give to support her or his main idea?
3. What evidences does the author use to support these reasons? Is it credible? Is it biased?
4. Are these reasons and evidence convincing? Why or why not? Are there implicit assumptions?
5. What do you think was the author’s purpose in writing this piece?
6. Are the reasons presented in a logical order, as a line of reasoning? Do the reasons clearly link to one another and to the conclusion?
7. Does the author make a reasoned evaluation of other people’s views that contradict their own? (Does he or she address counter-arguments?)
8. What are the implications if the reader accepts this argument?