## Guidelines for writing an analysis

Instructors who ask you to analyze a nonfiction text often expect you to address some of the following questions.

- **What is the author's thesis or central idea?** Who is the audience?
- **What questions does the author address (implicitly or explicitly)?** What questions are left unanswered?
- **How does the author structure the text?** What are the key parts and how do they relate to one another and to the thesis?
- **What strategies has the author used to generate interest in the argument and to persuade readers of its merit?**
- **What evidence does the author use to support the thesis?** How persuasive is the evidence?
- **Does the author anticipate objections and counter opposing views?**
- **Does the author fall prey to any faulty reasoning?**