

Technical Definitions

Due Oct 23 at 11:59pm	Points 5	Questions 10	Time Limit 30 Minutes
-----------------------	----------	--------------	-----------------------

Attempt History

	Attempt	Time	Score
LATEST	Attempt 1	7 minutes	3.5 out of 5

⚠️ Correct answers are hidden.

Score for this quiz: **3.5** out of 5
Submitted Dec 13 at 9:16pm
This attempt took 7 minutes.

Question 1

0.5 / 0.5 pts

Janice is writing a technical definition and needs to demonstrate why something happens. Which extension would work best?

☐ Comparison and Contrast

☐ Etymology

☐ Exemplification

☒ Cause and effect

This is correct. The *Cause and Effect* extension is used to demonstrate why something happens or when you need to trace results.

☐ Process

Question 2

0.5 / 0.5 pts

Ahmed has created a technical description for the how the influenza vaccine works to give to patients that have concerns over its safety. In his description, he includes a technical definition for influenza. When writing this definition, what must Ahmed carefully consider?

- ☐ The cost of the influenza vaccine
- ☐ How many cases of influenza have been reported so far this year.
- ☒ The audience's knowledge and skill level.

This is correct. The audience's knowledge and skill level must always be considered when writing a technical definition. This will inform you of how precise or technical the definition can be and whether qualifiers or extensions are needed.

- ☐ The audience's age
- ☐ The doctor's opinion.

Question 3

0.5 / 0.5 pts

The basic format for a technical definition is:

- ☐ Classification = Differentiation + Extension
- ☐ Classification = Term
- ☐ Differentiation = Term + Classification
- ☒ Term = Classification + Differentiation

This is correct. This is the basic format for a technical definition.

- ☐ Term = Extension + Classification

Question 4

0.5 / 0.5 pts

Rigo has considered their audience's skill and knowledge level and has determined they can't write a simple enough definition. What can they do?

- ☒ Add an extension

This is correct. *Extensions* are added to the basic technical definition format to clarify the meaning of the term.

- ☐ Use a qualifier
- ☐ Use a different word instead.
- ☐ Write the definition anyway.
- ☐ Don't use the word in the document

Incorrect

Question 5

0 / 0.5 pts

A student needs to write a technical definition for the word "stall" and is told a qualifier would be helpful for the audience. Which example includes a qualifier?

- ☐ In flying, a stall is a condition in which the lift produced is less than the weight of the airplane.



A stall is a single three-sided compartment that is designed to shelter an animal in a barn or stable, much like a house for a human.



A stall is an operating condition in which a sudden and unexpected loss of power occurs. First, a fuel pump moves fuel from the tank to the carburetor where it mixes with air. Then it is sucked in by the engine. During a stall, the car will not start will need to be towed.



A stall is a flight condition in which the lift produced is less than the weight of the airplane.

This technical definition does not include a qualifier. Rather it follows the basic format of a technical definition. A qualifier is appropriate to use in a technical definition where the *term* you are defining has multiple meanings in many contexts. It provides context up front. A qualifier for this technical definition would read, “In farming, a stall is a single three-sided compartment that is designed to shelter an animal in a barn or stable.”



A stall is an operating condition in which a sudden and unexpected loss of power occurs. This can happen due to a bad battery or fuel pump.

Incorrect

Question 6

0 / 0.5 pts

In the following definition, “Ionization is the electrostatic process by which a neutral atom or molecule loses or gains electrons, thereby acquiring a net charge,” “a neutral atom or molecule loses or gains electrons, thereby acquiring a net charge” is what part of the technical definition?



Qualifier

☐ Differentiation

☐ Classification

☐ Extension

☒ Cause and effect

Cause and effect is an example of an extension and is not included in the basic technical definition format. *Differentiation*, on the other hand, involves narrowing the meaning of the term to just one possibility within the class. "A neutral atom or molecule loses or gains electrons, thereby acquiring a net charge" narrows the *term* "ionization" within the *classification* of "electrostatic process."

Incorrect

Question 7

0 / 0.5 pts

In order to clarify the technical definition of a gas-powered lawn mower, Bob wants to include information about an electric-powered lawn mower. What extension should Bob use?

☐ Compare and Contrast

☐ Process

☒ Classification

Classification is used to organize information into categories. Bob should use the *Comparison and Contrast* extension in order to show the differences or similarities between the two types of lawn mowers.

☐ Etymology

☐ Exemplification

Question 8

0.5 / 0.5 pts

Why can it be difficult to determine the classification when writing a technical definition?

- ☐ There are a lot of extensions to choose from.
- ☒ The classification should be general, but not too general

This is correct. The classification *should be general, but not too general* in order to create an effective technical definition. This can be difficult because if the classification is too general, there are too many possible meanings for the term. However, if the classification is too narrow, the term might not fit comfortably into that category.

- ☐ The classification must be the same for all audiences.
- ☐ The classification can change depending on if you are defining a term for a mechanism or a process.
- ☐ Your audience might be large.

Question 9

0.5 / 0.5 pts

Which example demonstrates the use of the extension *etymology*?

- ☐ "Ergonomics is scientific study of the efficiency of people in the workplace. Efficiency here means to reduce human error, increase productivity, and enhance safety and comfort."



“Ergonomics is scientific study of the efficiency of people in the workplace. The word was coined in 1950 and derives from the Greek word ‘ergon’ meaning to work.”

This is correct. *Etymology* is an extension used to show the linguistic genesis of a term. Ergonomics comes from the Greek word “ergon.”



“Ergonomics is scientific study of the efficiency of people in the workplace. This type of study helps people make machines easier to use.”



“Ergonomics is the scientific study of the efficiency of people in the workplace.”



“Ergonomics is scientific study of the efficiency of people in the workplace. This field consists of physical, cognitive, and organizational ergonomics.”

Question 10

0.5 / 0.5 pts

In the following definition, “A major scale is a diatonic scale which has the semitone interval pattern 2-2-1-2-2-2-1,” “diatonic scale” is which part of the technical definition:

☒ Classification

This is correct. “Diatonic scale” is the *classification* part of the technical definition.

☐ Term

☐ Extension

☐ Qualifier

☐ Exemplification

Quiz Score: **3.5** out of 5