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| Name: | Date: |
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## Reading: Evaluate Credibility and Analyze Author's Intent

### Practice

"Vote for me! I will make sure the school does not adopt a dress code."

"Come to the movies with me now. You can meet Jan and Mike later."

You probably hear persuasive arguments like this every day. How can you tell which arguments you should listen to? Here are some things to think about before you change your mind about something:

- What is the author saying? (What is the argument?)
- What are the author's opinions on the subject?
- How does the author prove his or her points? (What is the evidence?)
- How does the author try to appeal to your emotions or your judgment?
- Does the author try to prove other opinions are wrong?

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**Read the following sentences. Then, write what you think the author is saying and why.**

1. "Horror movies are terrible—they all use the same characters and plots. I prefer mysteries."

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2. "You did a great job on that report. You can do even better on your next report if you use a few more sources."

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3. "Your sister wants to go to the playground. If you take her, you can stay out later on Friday."

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## Reading: Evaluate Credibility and Analyze Author's Intent

### Assess

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Read the following document, thinking about the author's intent and the credibility of the argument. Then, answer the questions that follow.

#### The Truth About Designer Clothes

Are designer clothes worth the money? Some people think designer clothes show that they have lots of money to spend. They want to look like one of the elite, like someone you could see on TV. While it is true that some people are impressed with logos, are these people worth impressing?

This probably sounds like something your mom or dad might say, but think about it. Sure, it feels good to look good, but there are lots of clothes that can make you look great at half the price. What matters most is that your clothes are right for you, that they complement your figure, and that they show something about the person you really are.

Is it worthwhile spending your entire allowance on one shirt? Instead, you could spend half of your allowance on a really nice shirt and the other half on a meal and a movie. Plus, friends who are attracted to you because of what is on your pocket may not be interested in the real you—the person underneath the logo.

1. What is the author saying about designer clothes?

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2. How does the author prove his or her points?

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3. Do you agree or disagree with the author? Explain your answer.

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