Evaluative Thesis Templates

An evaluative essay uses specific criteria to judge the quality of a subject. Typically, that means explaining how successful or unsuccessful the subject was at meeting a specified goal. Although making such a judgment means stating a subjective opinion about how good or bad something is, evaluative essays work best when they use concrete evidence to support those opinions and avoid seeming biased. Try using one of the following thesis templates to help you get started:

1) **Through its use of** (rhetorical element), (rhetorical element), and (rhetorical element), (text’s name) **successfully convinces readers that** (purpose of text).

   **Example:** Through its use of emotional imagery, believable experiences, and well researched evidence, “Being a Man” successfully convinces readers that masculinity can be just as burdensome as femininity in America.

2) (Text’s name)’s lackluster attempts at (weak rhetorical element), (weak rhetorical element), and (weak rhetorical element) **result in an unsuccessful argument that fails to** (purpose of text).

   **Example:** “Being a Man”’s lackluster attempts at logic, credibility, and emotional appeal result in an unsuccessful argument that fails to convince readers of how sexism affects men.

3) **Although** (text’s name) lacks (weak rhetorical element), its reliance on (strong rhetorical element) and (strong rhetorical element) **remains successful in** (purpose of text)

   **Example:** Although “Being a Man” lacks researched evidence, its reliance on emotional imagery and believable experiences remains successful in encouraging readers to reevaluate the sexist constraints placed on men in America.

4) **While** (text’s name) makes good use of (strong rhetorical element), its lacking (weak rhetorical element) and (weak rhetorical element) **renders it unsuccessful in** (purpose of text).

   **Example:** While “Being a Man” makes good use of emotional imagery, its lacking logical reasoning and credibility renders it unsuccessful in encouraging readers to reevaluate the “sexist” constraints placed on men in America.