

## The Instant Art Critique Phrase Generator

Feeling inarticulate? Critically gauche? Or just verbally powerless? With the Instant Art Critique Phrase Generator, you need never again feel at a loss for commentary or “insights.”

Here’s how it works:

Pick at random any five-digit number, such as 80479, then read off phrase #8 of Table A, phrase #0 of Table B, and so on. The result is a CRAP (Critical Response to the Art Product) sentence. Add a few more five-digit numbers to make a longer CRAP statement. After you have mastered the basic technique, you can realize the full potential of CRAP by arranging the phrases in DAECB order, BCEAD order, etc. Soon you can produce CRAP critiques as easily and fluently as anyone in your MFA program, or in the room for that matter!

### Table A:

- 1) I’m troubled by how
- 2) With regard to the issue of content
- 3) I find this work menacing/playful because of the way
- 4) It should be added that
- 5) I agree/disagree with some of the things that have just been said, but
- 6) Although I am not a painter, I think that
- 7) Um...
- 8) I’m surprised that no one has mentioned yet that
- 9) It’s difficult to enter into this work because of how
- 10) As an advocate of the Big Mac Aesthetic, I feel that

### Table B:

- 1) the internal dynamic
- 2) the sublime beauty
- 3) the disjunctive perturbation
- 4) the optical suggestions
- 5) the reductive quality
- 6) the sub aqueous qualities
- 7) the iconicity
- 8) the aura
- 9) the mechanical mark-making
- 10) the metaphorical resonance

### Table D:

- 1) verges on codifying
- 2) seems very disturbing in light of
- 3) contextualizes
- 4) endangers the devious simplicity of
- 5) brings within the realm of discourse
- 6) makes resonant
- 7) visually and conceptually activates
- 8) notates
- 9) spatially undermines
- 10) threatens to penetrate

### Table C:

- 1) of the biomorphic forms
- 2) of the sexual signifier
- 3) of the negative space
- 4) of the spatial relationships
- 5) of the fracture
- 6) of the purity of line
- 7) of the Egyptian motifs
- 8) of the gesture
- 9) of the figurative/narrative line space marks
- 10) of the sexy fish

### Table E:

- 1) the accessibility of the work
- 2) a participation in the critical dialogue of the 90’s
- 3) the eloquence of these pieces
- 4) the remarkable handling of light
- 5) the inherent over-specificity
- 6) the distinctive formal juxtapositions
- 7) the essentially transitional quality
- 8) the larger carcass
- 9) the substructure of critical thinking
- 10) the exploration of montage elements

EXAMPLE: The five-digit number proposed above (80479) would produce the following CRAP: “I’m surprised that no one has mentioned yet that the metaphorical resonance of the spatial relationships visually and conceptually activates the substructure of critical thinking.

With this device, you can speak about Art with both authority and confidence. Use this marvelous tool to challenge, amaze, and menace your friends and colleagues!