Descriptive, Analytical and Critical Writing

Look at texts A, B and C below, then decide which you think is analytical, which is critical, and which is just descriptive.

Text A:
A car is a machine for transporting people. Cars usually can carry a maximum of 5 or 6 people. They use petroleum or diesel fuel although there are also some electric cars. Many people are killed or injured each year in car accidents. In Australia, most people drive cars and the roads of many urban centres are choked with this form of private transport.

A bus is a form of public transport. Buses generally operate on urban, suburban, or inter-urban routes. As well as buses operated by the government, there are some private bus companies, particularly for long distance travel. Many people can be transported in one bus, and so just one serious accident can claim many lives.

Text B:
Two of the most common vehicles for transporting people are cars and buses. Whereas the capacity of the car is usually limited to about 5 or 6 people, the greater passenger capacity of the bus brings savings on fuel and other costs as well as reducing the amounts of traffic on the road. The ownership of buses is usually governmental or business, which ensures that bus travel is generally safer than travel by privately owned cars, although just one serious accident can claim many lives. However, public ownership also means that buses are often not as convenient as private cars in terms of their accessibility to all areas.

Text C:
Of the two main forms of transport for people, buses are more effective than cars for a number of reasons. The greater passenger capacity of the bus ensures savings on fuel and other costs as well as reducing the amounts of traffic on the road. Secondly, the increased safety of bus travel as a result of ownership being governmental or business ensures that deaths and injuries from accidents are minimal compared with the numerous deaths and injuries from car accidents. Finally, the accessibility of buses to most areas is strategically possible because buses use the established road system, so that little development is needed in order to extend a new bus route. Indeed, the potential for a bus transport system to be as convenient as private cars, combined with the other advantages of buses over cars, provides a convincing argument for the expansion of the bus transport system, rather than the continuation of a costly, inefficient and unsafe system based on privately owned vehicles.

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