

10 STEPS | Generate a Source-Based Argument

Writing From Sources <small>© 2019 SMEKENS EDUCATION SOLUTIONS, INC.</small> WORKING SYNTHESSES	
SOURCE 1	SOURCE 1
SOURCE 2	SOURCE 2
SOURCE 3	SOURCE 3
SOURCE 4	SOURCE 4

STEP 1: Label the columns with the perspectives.

STEP 2: Read each source individually, recording details based on the column/perspective they support.

STEP 3: After reading all the sources, determine which perspective/column has the most textual evidence—align with that side.

STEP 4: Looking at only the strongest side, synthesize reasons.

STEP 5: Repeat this process to synthesize 3 different reasons.

STEP 6: Put each synthesized reason through the *Synthesis Test*.

STEP 7: Review the list of collected facts for the weaker side.

STEP 8: Synthesize one reason in support of the counterargument.

STEP 9: Put the synthesized counterclaim through the *Synthesis Test*.

STEP 10: Arrange the reasons to bury the weakest and end with the strongest (i.e., 2-3-counterclaim-1).

10 STEPS | **Generate a Source-Based Argument**

Perspective A

SOURCE 1

STEP 1: Label the columns with the perspectives.

Perspective B

SOURCE 1

STEP 2: Read each source individually, recording details based on the column/perspective they support.

SOURCE 2

SOURCE 2

SOURCE 3

SOURCE 3

SOURCE 4

SOURCE 4

STEP 3: After reading all the sources, determine which perspective has the most textual evidence—align with that said.

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Perspective A

SOURCE 1

SOURCE 2

SOURCE 3

SOURCE 4

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WORKING SYNTHESSES

Reason #1

Reason #2

Reason #3

STEP 4: Looking at only the strongest side, synthesize reasons.

- Read through the facts collected.
- Group details that share a similar sentiment.
- Generate a working synthesis—a possible reason.
- Continue to massage the reason while gathering additional details from different sources.

STEP 5: Repeat this process to synthesize 3 different reasons.

STEP 6: Put each synthesized reason through the *Synthesis Test*.

DOES IT PASS?

- ☐ A new thought
- ☐ My wording
- ☐ Used 2+ details
- ☐ Used 2+ sources

10 STEPS | Generate a Source-Based Argument

STEP 7: Review the list of collected facts for the weaker side.

STEP 8: Synthesize one reason in support of the counterargument.

- Read through the facts collected.
- Group details that share a similar sentiment.
- Generate a working synthesis—a possible reason.
- Continue to massage the reason while gathering additional details from different sources.

STEP 9: Put the synthesized counterclaim through the *Synthesis Test*.

DOES IT PASS?

- ☐ A new thought
- ☐ My wording
- ☐ Used 2+ details
- ☐ Used 2+ sources

STEP 10: Arrange the reasons to bury the weakest and end with the strongest (i.e., 2-3-counterclaim-1).

Writing From Sources

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WORKING SYNTHESSES

Reason #1

Reason #2

Reason #3

Counterclaim

Perspective B

SOURCE 1

SOURCE 2

SOURCE 3

SOURCE 4