



ELA Virtual Learning

**AP Lang and Comp:
Synthesis Essay**

April 14, 2020



AP Lang and Comp
Lesson: April 14, 2020 (2 of 5)

Objective/Learning Target:

1. Apply close, critical reading strategies of complex non-fiction text in order to analyze and synthesize the information in order to evaluate its purpose, identify any bias and determine its validity.
2. To produce well-organized arguments using textual evidence from complex non-fiction texts while supporting a clear, concise claim.

Background Information:

A synthesis is a written discussion incorporating support from several sources of differing views. This type of assignment requires that you examine a variety of sources and identify their relationship to your thesis. This is one essay of the three on the AP Lang exam.

Before you begin...

As you refer to each source included in this prompt, remember to look for the points listed below:

- Each source's stance on the topic**
- The main idea of each source**
- Concessions, objections, and rebuttals (when applicable).**
- Types of evidence (anecdotal, historical, analogies, current events, etc.)**

Make sure to read over the sources and the brief sentences that you wrote for each one.

Warm Up Activity:

Answer the following question about the Synthesis Essay:

What is synthesis?

- a. A scattered juxtaposition of ideas from several sources**
- b. Integration of support from more than one source for one idea/argument**
- c. Identification of how sources are related**
- d. All of the above**

Warm Up Activity:

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Lesson:

- Review through the prompt and the sources provided. There are a total of six sources.
- First, take a position on the key issues that leaders (in science, politics, business, etc.) should consider when making policies that may affect global warming.
- Second, decide whether the source is FOR, NEUTRAL, or AGAINST your topic.
- Third, write the main idea of each source.
- Last, list two direct quotes for each source that substantiates the FOR, NEUTRAL, or AGAINST.
- Click [here](#) to read the prompt and sources.
- Click [here](#) to access the annotation sheet.

Self-Assessment Checklist:

- Did you state your position on the key issues that leaders (in science, politics, business, etc.) should consider when making policies that may affect global warming?
- Did you give each source a FOR, NEUTRAL, or AGAINST ranking?
- Did you write the main idea for each source?
- Did you use 2 direct quotes from the source that supports your ranking?

Video Support:

- The following video link is a great tool to for how to evaluate sources for the Synthesis Essay. Check it out and see if it matches your techniques for evaluating the sources for your For, Neutral, or Against sheet.

[Evaluating Sources for Credibility](#)

Further Practice:

- The following link is a PDF version of the 2005 Synthesis Essay Prompt and a different source evaluation sheet. For further practice, evaluate each source in the 2005 Synthesis following the Source Evaluation Sheet or on a separate piece of paper.

[2005 Synthesis](#)

[Source Evaluation Sheet](#)