



ELA Virtual Learning

**AP Lang and Comp:
Synthesis Essay**

April 16, 2020



AP Lang and Comp

Lesson: **April 16, 2020 (4 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 T-Chart for PRO and CON arguments.

Warm Up Activity:

Answer the following question about the Synthesis Essay:

True or False:

Sources should be blended within your paper and quotations should never just be dropped in a text.

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Lesson:

- Review through the prompt and the sources provided. There are a total of six sources.
 - First, using your PROS/CONS T-Chart, begin writing your outline to organize your thoughts and identify sources that could provide evidence for each support idea.
 - Last, use the Synthesis Essay Outline sheet to brainstorm your essay. Include a thesis, 1st argument, 2nd argument, counter, refutation, and conclusion in the outline.
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- Click [here](#) to read the prompt and sources.
 - Click [here](#) to access the Synthesis Essay Outline sheet.

Self-Assessment Checklist:

- Did you give one sentence (thesis) in your introduction?
- Did you list your 1st argument citing two sources from the handout?
- Did you list your 2nd argument citing two sources from the handout?
- Did you give an opposing view citing one source from the handout?
- Did you give the rebuttal to the opposing view citing one source from the handout?
- Did you create a conclusion listing summary of main ideas?

Video Support:

- The following video link is a great tool that explains how to write a Synthesis Essay outline. It is important for you to outline what you plan to write before you begin your drafts.

[How To Write a Synthesis Essay - Definition + Topics + Outline](#)

Further Practice:

- The following link is a PDF version of a Brainstorming Sheet. Use the 2005 Synthesis Essay to create a visual representation of your topic and the Focus Statements that accompany the two PRO arguments and two CON arguments.

[2005 Synthesis Essay](#)

[Synthesis Brainstorming](#)