



# Brainstorming for the argument FRQ

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AP English Language & Comp

Tesoro High School, the # 1 High School in CUSD!

**API Score 882**





## The Chicken Foot & B-C-H

Before you dive in and start BS'ing your argument like I did in high school, take **5** minutes to BCH your argument instead, and leave **40** minutes to write:

Consider **BOOKS**,

**CURRENT EVENTS/CULTURAL EX'S, &**

**HISTORICAL EX'S**

# The Chicken Foot & B-C-H



Position

(Although + C + Pos.)

Concession(s): tied to an example if possible

Subclaim tied to a strong EXAMPLE

Subclaim tied to a strong EXAMPLE

# Option 2: The Chicken Foot & B-C-H



Position

(Although + C + Pos.)

C + Subclaim tied to a strong EXAMPLE

C+Subclaim tied to a strong EXAMPLE

C+Subclaim tied to a strong EXAMPLE

# Chicken Foot Explained

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For our class assignments (in -class practice), write a short sentence explaining how the subclaim ties to the EXAMPLE. For example if you were doing the Overrated FRQ:

Don't just write "Royals" on your Chicken Foot. You could write: "Although the Royal Family was important centuries ago, the Royals are a great example of what is overrated because they have little impact on the nation of England these days & get far too much attention in the news."



## The Chicken Foot & B-C-H

- Make sure you have **vivid & convincing** examples you think you can build a paragraph around
  - Or, BONUS, it could be two related ex's in one cohesive paragraph (like *The Devil's Highway* & *Fast Food Nation* if the argument dealt with illegal immigration)



## The Chicken Foot & B-C-H

- It does not have to be B-C-H exactly. It could be some variation:
  - HBB
  - BCC
  - CHH
- Just don't use this combo: B plus S

# Let me say this again: Be an Informed Citizen -- at least in May



- The topics often prove topical and current
- The more you know about the world, the better chances you can tie in outside knowledge to whatever argument prompt comes up



- For the top score, the new rubric states:

“Articulating the implications or limitations of an argument (either the student’s argument or arguments conveyed in the sources) by situating it within a broader context.”





## Call to Action:

- Be BETTER THAN THE GAP
- Write a CONVINCING ARGUMENT

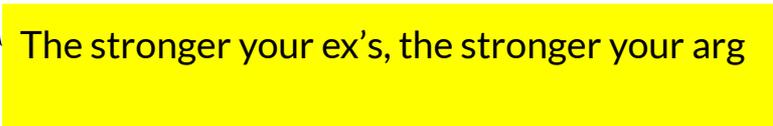






## Rubric Lingo for the HIGHEST Score

- Uniformly offer evidence to support claims.
- Focus on the importance of specific details to build an argument.
- Organize and support an argument as a line of reasoning composed of multiple supporting claims, each with adequate evidence that is clearly explained.



The stronger your ex's, the stronger your arg

# "Sophistication"



## Rubric Lingo for the HIGHEST Score

This is the concessions

1. Crafting a **nuanced** argument by consistently identifying and exploring **complexities** or tensions. 2. Articulating the implications or **limitations** of an argument (either the student's argument or an argument related to the prompt) by situating it within a **broader context**. 3. Making effective rhetorical choices that consistently strengthen the force and impact of the student's argument. 4. Employing a **style** that is consistently **vivid and persuasive**.

Don't oversimplify

The stronger your ex's, the stronger your arg

# Review the “Mooney Method” for budgeting time

15 min of reading only

- Have scratch paper handy ● Read the synthesis for 8-10 minutes and copy and paste nuggets to use in support of your thesis. If it does not allow you to copy and paste, then scratch paper w/lines and doc letters.....(ex. Doc A line 21) ○ This includes both concessions and the nuggets you'll use in your support of your argument
- 5 minutes for doing the chicken foot for the argument FRQ on your scratch paper...remember books, current events, historical examples are best
- (If you do have any time left, read the analysis and copy and paste quotes with tropes into your AP Testing App if it allows you...if not scratch paper)



2 hours of writing (You have to time yourself for the 3 FRQ's: 40 minutes each)

- Synthesis first.

Start with the thesis, front load concessions and counterarguments, and then go into my evidence. ● Then go back and add a creative hook and transition.

- At the end add a pathos-driven conclusion perhaps with a CTA if it's applicable. ●

(Jot down times from clock and pace yourself accordingly)

● Then write the analysis. Follow the same strategy. Get the thesis and body paragraphs down, and work on intro and conclusion thereafter. ● (Jot down times from clock and pace yourself accordingly)

- Then write the argument. Follow the same strategy as the synthesis.



## More FRQ Notes

- Employ C & C throughout
  - Otherwise, it just becomes a 1-sided argument. You do not want a 1-sided argument. You want a nuanced argument!



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## More FRQ Notes

- If you are going to use **culture** (i.e., the C in B-C-H), use high culture -- not pop culture. Remember your audience.
  - Ex. No Harry Potter. No Hunger Games. No Disney.
  - Ex. Yes, on a Broadway play such as *To Kill a Mockingbird*, or yes, to a famous artist like Van Gogh
  - Ex. Yes on a classical musician



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## More FRQ Notes

- I said a lot about B-C-H, and I never said anything about anecdotal evidence. Don't use it unless unless it's the greatest anecdote in the history of anecdotes....like that one time I saw Robin Williams
  - It's B-C-H; it's not A-B-C. That's something you learn in preschool

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## My 2 cents

Avoid always using the first idea that first pops in your head. Sometimes that could be the most used piece of evidence for the entire country. Ex. COVID



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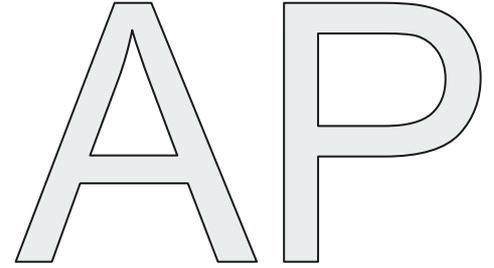
## More Tips from an Old Man

Get off your high horse.

Don't be one sided in your argument and completely moralistic and judgmental toward the other side.



**I ALWAYS WONDERED HOW PEOPLE  
GET DOWN OFF THEIR HIGH HORSE**



AP



## Last but not least

- Remember to read the prompt very carefully and underline the key instruction words. Failure to answer the prompt will result in a lower half score.
- AP = Answer the Prompt



## Questions?

- E-mail or post on the Google Classroom for all to benefit from
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