Selecting and Presenting Evidence Practice

World History

**Instructions:**

To solidify our understanding on how to select evidence and use it to support our arguments. In this activity you will practice selecting evidence from a number of sources, planning how you would include it in your paper and connecting it into an argument. When you have finished this activity, submit it to Google Classroom.

**Part 1-Selecting Evidence**

Below are a number of pieces of evidence selected from the thesis practice activity last class. Review each example then sort it into which type of evidence you believe it best represents.

* “In a 2014 document, the Chinese government outlined its vision for such a system and noted that it involved four distinct segments: a government trust system, a commercial credit system, a social trust system and a judicial trust system” (Song).
* “They have faced periodic crackdowns, which intensified after riots in the regional capital in Urumqi in 2009 killed nearly 200 people. Bombings in Xinjiang and attacks allegedly carried out by Uighur separatists, including a mass stabbing in the city of Kunming in China’s southwest in 2014 that killed 31 people, led to further restrictions” (*Reuters*).
* “In recent years, under Chen Quanguo, the Communist Party secretary in Xinjiang and a loyalist of President Xi Jinping, measures against Uighurs have included a ban on ‘abnormal’ beards for men and restrictions on religious pilgrimages to Mecca” (*Reuters*).
* “Adrian Zenz, an anthropologist who has tracked the expansion of the camps, estimates

there could be as many as 1,200 – at least one for every county and township in Xinjiang. By August this year, the number of buildings at these facilities had more than doubled to 1,129. The area they covered had almost tripled to more than 1 million square meters - roughly the size of 140 soccer fields” (*Reuters*).

* “Those who failed to correctly memorize the lines of Communist Party dictums were denied food, said one detainee” (*Reuters*).
* “The U.S. Embassy in Beijing reported that levels of PM 2.5—a type of particulate air pollution that seeps into lung, vein, and heart tissue—surged above 850 micrograms per cubic meter; the UN says that 20 micrograms per cubic meter is the highest safe level” (Meyer).
* “ These two weather events seem to be getting more common, and more intense, as the climate keeps warming. This means that even as China succeeds in reducing some of its emissions, the winter haze may worsen for meteorological reasons” (Meyer).
* “In the past few weeks the authorities have arrested dozens of university students who have been campaigning on behalf of workers at a factory in the southern city of Shenzhen who want to form a trade union” (*The Economist*).
* “China accounts for about $52 billion in sales for Apple, and is its third-largest market” (Shan).
* “My company made a decision more than a decade ago not to invest in China’s export sector. Costs for Chinese manufacturers are rising, and prices for their exports are flat or falling. Instead, I feel strongly that there is much greater potential for companies — inside and outside China — that cater to the Chinese consumer market” (Shan).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Statistical  (Quantitative + Qualitative) | Testimonial | Anecdotal | Analogical |
|  |  |  |  |

Within statistical evidence we have two types; quantitative evidence which attempts to quantify (count) the phenomenon and qualitative evidence which attempts to demonstrate the relative importance/impact in relation to the whole. Now that you have categorized all of your evidence, take a look at the statistical column. Using the text color, highlight quantitative evidence in red and qualitative evidence in blue.

**Part 2- Prioritize Evidence**

Now that you reviewed the evidence, the next step is to evaluate it. Put the evidence in order of credibility and then give a short explanation of why you ranked the evidence in the order that you did.

**Part 3-Using the Evidence in Your Essay**

After you have selected reliable evidence, there are multiple methods to use it in your essay. Using the evidence below, create an example for each of the methods for incorporating quotations. In order to accomplish this, you may need to reference the full article (linked below). Make sure to use appropriate citations.

**“China’s robotic spacecraft Chang’e-4 landed on the dark side of the moon earlier this month, a first in the human history of space exploration” (Fifield and Li).**

[Fifield, Anna, and Lyric Li. "China Plans Another Moon Mission This Year, Eyes Mars in 2020." *The Washington Post*. WP Company, 14 Jan. 2019. Web. 14 Jan. 2019.](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/china-plans-another-moon-mission-this-year-eyes-mars-in-2020/2019/01/14/8160355e-1800-11e9-a804-c35766b9f234_story.html?utm_term=.6013825c5d02)

**Method #1: Begin with an Explanation:**

**Method #2: Begin with the Quote:**

**Method #3: Insert the quote into the middle of your writing:**

**Method #4: Paraphrase:**

**Step 4-Applying the Evidence**

Finally, apply your evidence to support your argument. Below are three possible topic sentences for the provided essay question. For each topic sentence below, select two **different** **types of evidence** that support the argument.

**To what extent does China’s future seem bright?**

* **Topic Sentence #1:** Although China is facing environmental and diplomatic challenges, the government’s humans rights violations are the most serious issue for the country’s future.
  + **Evidence #1:**
  + **Evidence # 2:**
* **Topic Sentence #2:** Despite widespread reporting on humans rights violations and environmental issues, China’s booming economy indicates the country’s future success.
  + **Evidence #1:**
  + **Evidence # 2:**
* **Topic Sentence #3:** While China’s economy continues to grow, the country faces serious problems which will continually decrease the quality of life for citizens.
  + **Evidence #1:**
  + **Evidence # 2:**