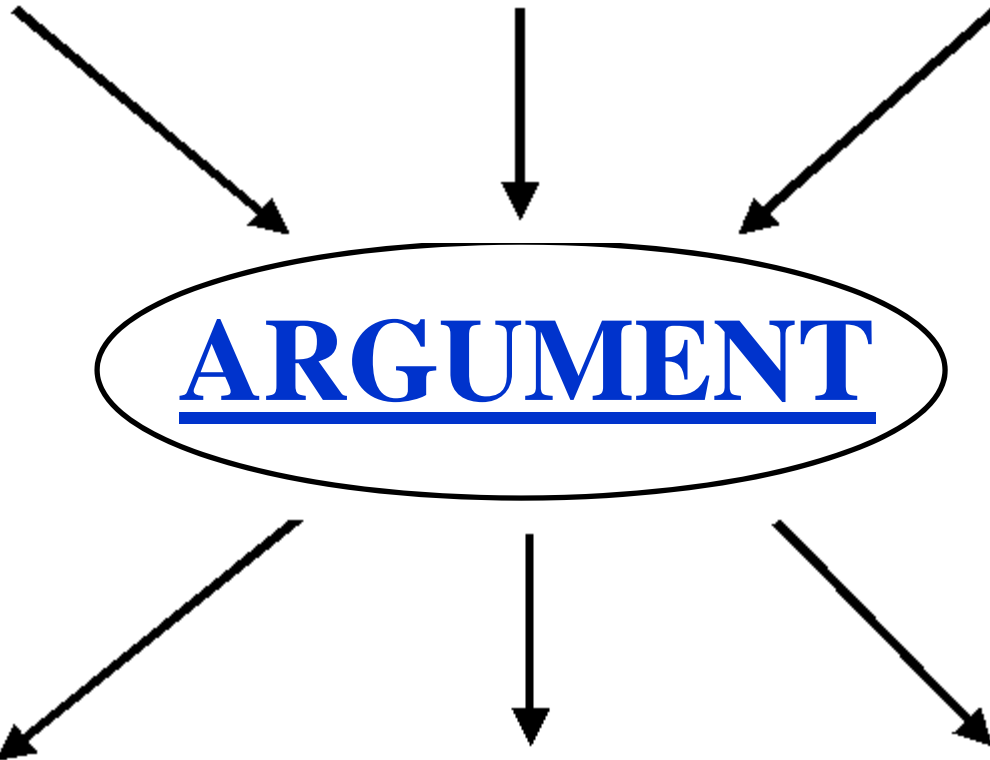


THINKING

VALUES + EVIDENCE + REASONING



THESIS + EVIDENCE + COMMENTARY

EXPRESSING

ARGUMENT

The center of the study of history

- History is:
 - NOT what happened in the past
 - how we understand & give meaning
 - necessarily interpretive
 - forming & critiquing arguments about interpretations

[Diagram](#)

VALUES

Author's perspective towards subject of argument

- Refers to larger idea
 - Ex. Liberty, Equality, Democracy, Capitalism, Individualism, Order, Collectivism etc.
- Sometimes referred to as “bias”, “agenda”, “point of view”, “paradigm”, “frame of reference” etc.
- Sometimes stated but often assumed or subtle (must be inferred)
 - Author may not be aware of it

Diagram

EVALUATING EVIDENCE

- **Evidence**—any specific information used as support
 - Facts; Authorities; Statistics; Etc.
- **Evaluating**
 - Selecting—choosing evidence
 - Analyzing
 - Relevance
 - Reliability--PROPP, Fact $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ Opinion
 - Strength

Diagram

REASONING

Category of thinking that links values to evidence

Three Categories

1. **Generalization**—Reasoning used to draw conclusions about a whole based on part(s) of the whole.
2. **Cause-Effect**—Reasoning used to analyze why events happened.
3. **Comparison**—Drawing a conclusion based on how one idea or event is like another.
 - a. Includes alike and difference comparisons.
 - b. AKA historical analogies.

Diagram

THESIS

Summary statement of the whole argument

- States big idea you are trying to prove or support
- Establishes structure of argument
- Includes parts (major arguments)
 - “Because”, “Therefore”, “For these reasons:” “So”
- ABCDE or URCAL
- Does not include EVIDENCE or COMMENTARY

[Diagram](#)

ORGANIZING EVIDENCE

Grouping, applying and sequencing specific information in support of thesis

- Align evidence to match reasoning (diagram?)
- Quotes: primary sources, authorities
- Paraphrasing and Summarizing
- Statistics
- Citation

[Diagram](#)

COMMENTARY

Author's interpretation, explanation &
analysis

- Connecting to THESIS
- Interpreting EVIDENCE
- Expressing analysis from **THINKING** level
 - PROPPing Evidence
 - Applying REASONING Evaluation Questions
 - Identifying & analyzing VALUES

Diagram