G.O.P.H.E.R.S. Brainstorming Graphic Organizer for the Argument Question

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| GGovernment & Current Events |  | EEntertainment & Pop Culture |  |
| OObservations & Personal experience |  | RReadings |  |
| PPhilosophy & Psychology |  | SScience & Technology |  |
| HHistory |  | Miscellaneous & Other |  |

Structure of an AP Argument Essay:

* Start with a 1-2 sentence introduction to hook the reader’s interest. Introduce the topic of the essay in a broad way.
* Provide a BRIEF summary of the text/prompt for context
* Name your THESIS! What’s your argument and your reasoning for it? Use a “because…” clause if possible
* In your intro you have a thesis statement that asserts the reasons for your argument; in your conclusion you need to go one step further.
* What is the RESULT, the SO WHAT? of your reasons? Why do we, a society of involved citizens, care about this issue? What should we do with this information? What are the consequences? Develop a stance on these!
* Develop “GOPHERS” examples that…
* Support your argument with a thorough explanation of the examples
* Explore :HOW the examples build/support your argument
* 1-2 *well developed* examples (3 at most for those who can write a LONG essay in 40 minutes)

Body Paragraphs (2-4)

Conclusion Paragraph (if possible—2 to 3 sentences if in a time crunch)

Intro Paragraph