

FRQ 1 Synthesis Essay Prompt Parts for: **Social Media Regulation OR Mass Shootings/Gun Violence**

1st: A paragraph is provided that outlines the context in which a topic is being discussed (parameters, definitions), so that the reader/test-taker/thinker has an understanding of the *direction* of the prompt.

2nd: Next, directions are provided. They begin with, “Carefully read the six sources, including the introductory information for each source . . .” Usually, this “introductory information” is some contextual information that will help the reader (test-taker/thinker) make sense of the *text/data/graph/photo/brief* in lieu of the initial paragraph that outlines the topic. This section also provides the specific prompt, which would go something like anyone of the following in relation to the topic and the direction(s) test-makers want students to go:

- Write an essay that synthesizes . . . and develops your position on the extent to which . . . is beneficial
- Write an essay that synthesizes . . . and develops your position on the extent to which . . . is worthwhile
- Write an essay that synthesizes . . . and develops your position on the most important factors that . . .
- Write an essay that synthesizes . . . and develops your position on what role . . .
- Write an essay that synthesizes . . . and develops your position on whether . . . should/should not . . .
- Write an essay that synthesizes . . . and develops your position on whether to or to . . .
- Write an essay that synthesizes . . . and develops your position on the value of . . .
- Write an essay that synthesizes . . . and . . . take a position on the claim that . . .
- Write an essay that synthesizes . . . and . . . take a position on the issue that . . .

3rd: Sources A-F are listed. These can be excerpts, texts from a variety of sources, a photo, a graph, a chart, a cartoon, infographic, website, political document, etc)

4th and finally: Key points from the rubric are listed to remind students of what they must do to earn the most points (out of 6).