Eric Dunk: So issues today - um, if you remember right there's the specific - like there is the argument and then there's the issue. And responding to those in specific ways, so how do issues like, what do you think they are in your mind? Like how today, how would you define an issue?

Audience Member: Uh - something that's more opinionated, I would say.
Eric Dunk: Okay.

Audience Member: Like a problem in society, but usually with two different points of view. I guess you would say.

Eric Dunk: Okay, yeah. Right and it takes like an opinionated stance on it, and um - so like I have the two pictures up here. As like clearcutting a forest, right, and then gun control. Are like two big issues, right now. They're usually very controversial, right, um - and there's usually a lot of interest in it. Like we know clearcutting forests is terrible for the environment, but there's like economic and political interests, and keeping those kinds of, uh - those kind of industries around, right. So um - issues a lot of times will have those kinds of push and pull between like different organizations and things like that. And uh - in different political interest, right. People have an interest in like the issue, and then they'll kind of put forth their opinion about it, right. Um - and yeah, then same story kind of with gun control is - you know we have the school shootings that happen, and people are like well how's it so easy for that dude to get gun or whatever. Uh - but then we have the second amendment, and obviously we hold the Constitution very close to our hearts as Americans.
Um - last week, this is just kind of an overview - just wanna breeze through this. So argument, remember we're just evaluating the logical coherence um - like so another writer will present an argument, right, and then you attack the argument, right.
And we - we practiced that, um - logical soundness, logical progression, structure, [inaudible] premise, assumptions all these things um - we talked about. Um - one of the things I probably should've mentioned is, we think of arguments sometimes as like people yelling at each other, or something. Arguments - that's not a way to argue, right - an argument will be like Socrates levelheaded, logical, we'll consider all viewpoints, right. Or at least a good argument will, okay. So any comments you want to say on that..

**Audience Member:** [inaudible]

**Eric Dunk:** Yeah, so just again going through and finding like, yeah.

**Audience Member:** [inaudible]

**Eric Dunk:** Yeah, and like one of the hardest parts about it. Was like uh - determining what the conclusion is, and then the premise, right, that follows it. Can be kinda hard, cause you want to like attack the premise, and then like how they reached the conclusion. So it's - it's uh - important to know the different uh - parts of that.
The Issue: an Intro

What is an Issue Essay?
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What are they (the scorers) looking for?
There is no right answer. They want a clear, articulate, reasoned argument about the issue and the side you have taken. Should be all-inclusive, address both sides, consider the issue in a social and cultural context, &c.

What should you include?
Compelling case for your viewpoint
Knowledge, experience, counterexamples, evidence, &c.
Remember: there will be specific instructions!

So yeah we're gonna be doing issues now, um - analyzing the issue means something very specific. Um - this is - so like where is the argument, is you're attacking someone else's argument. The issue is just you're now taking a stance basically, you're now gonna - you're gonna have a view. Or you're gonna feel strongly about something, right, given the issue. And then you're going to be able kind of say, why it is, like you think the work the way that you do or whatever. Finally it's your chance to argue your viewpoint, um - now this can be kind of like hard for some people I think. Like the argument is like - it's all there right, and you know what you're gonna be talking about; but the issue is a little different and it's a little bit more challenging, I think, for some people. Because they have to think of things to bring into the discussion, right. Like if you recall, was it week one that we talked about - well you weren't here week one but -
Audience Member: [inaudible]

Eric Dunk: Right, so yeah, yeah. Exactly there you go. So it was like the whole thing with like great leaders are defined by their circumstances, and not by their skill or whatever. Um - so the issue can make some people uncomfortable, because they need to bring in things like Abe Lincoln, and they need to bring in things like 9/11, or whatever. You know like all those things that we talked about, um - so that's why it can be kind of like challenging for some people it's, because they don't - they might not feel confident in the knowledge that they have to call upon it.

Audience Member: Do you have like, I mean like - I feel like this one I'd be pretty confident on, but do you have any tips for like if it's like a subject where like 'crap that's really not like a specialty of mine'.

Eric Dunk: Right.

Audience Member: Do you have any like - tips for that?

Eric Dunk: Hmmmm
The Issue: an Intro

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Audience Member: At least draw like - something into it, you know what I mean. Or use something that's in the essay that could like help.

Eric Dunk: Yeah um - hmm I would say one of the things that you could do, is you can always like shift the focus to like what you do know about the [inaudible]. You can put like the issue, so I put the political leader thing or whatever, it talks like how we define people's great. And if you're like man I don't really have like a knowledge of like history or something. Like you could shift the focus to something you do know about, and be like "this is how we define this other thing that's great" or whatever, right. And then kind of put it in a context that you feel more comfortable about, I would say. Um - yeah that is kinda tricky though, um - like.

Audience Member: [inaudible]

Eric Dunk: That - so um - they're not gonna like trick you, right. I mean they're not gonna ask you about like - or have some issue about like something super specific that happened during World War II, or something, right. Um - it's usually going to be like a really broad - and I have a bunch of examples, but a really broad kind of like uh - you know.
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What should you include?
Compelling case for your viewpoint
- Knowledge, experience, counterexamples, evidence, &c.
Remember: there will be specific instructions!

Audience Member: Subject.

Eric Dunk: Subject, yeah. That we all are kind of familiar with, like gun-control, you could bring in or like the environment or something. Like they bring in that a lot and so it's always something that we can be familiar with, talking about it. Um - okay, so the scorers, obviously there is no right answer to an issue. Um - the - like you said it's an opinion, right. So they are not looking for like, "oh did you to answer the question about gun control correctly", they're just seeing if you can articulate and reason through like what you believe about something.

So it's called "Analytic Writing" writing, right. Issues though isn't really analyzing like the argument - like the - analyzing argument is like really analytical. You have to really get down to like kinda the- the you know, nuts and bolts of the argument. And really start analyzing critically like that, but the issue is, it is analyzing; but it's also more of just being able to back up what you believe and being able to argue for something that you believe - you know. Intelligently, passionately, and all that stuff, which they think obviously is imperative grad school to be able to kind of uh - stand up for what you believe in.
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Compelling case for your viewpoint
   Knowledge, experience, counterexamples, evidence, &c.
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Yeah so it's really good for it to be at all inclusive, address both sides, things like that addressing both sides of things is really important. In all arguments, like argumentative papers that I write, I always try and bring the other side. And.

Audience Member: Like to shoot it down, or to just like say like - that - like on the one hand you can say this, or on the other hand you can also say this.

Eric Dunk: Yeah, I mean it kinda just depends, what you believe. Like if you - if you wanted to bring in the other argument, and then shoot it down, because you think it's crap then yeah, I would do that. Um - but if you do say, like there's - there is a reasonable stance on both sides, and the - the issue - the compromise lies somewhere in the middle.

Audience Member: Like typically that's what I'll do, I'm just kind of wondering if that's bad, if you're not like taking a stance on like one side of, you know - issue.

Eric Dunk: Right, yeah. I would - you know - I'm not sure honestly, but I would caution you on - on kind of walking the line every time. I would - I would argue for something, they wanna see you argue for something.
The Issue: an Intro

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What should you include?
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Knowledge, experience, counterexamples, evidence, &c.
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Um - like if you got a gun control issue, and you were like "well like we do have the second amendment, and like we - you know, most people probably use guns just like for hunting and rec- recreational trap shooting and things like that, more protection you know like actual, legitimate protection". Um - if you said that and then you were like "but then on the other hand we have these school shootings, or -". You haven't told me anything, you've just informed me, right, you haven't argued anything. You've just informed me of like what the two sides are, so at some point in time you the author is gonna come in and say "this is what I think", right. And yeah - and that might lead in the realm of some kind of compromise, right. Um - I mean that's what it is all about in society, right, when we make these controversial decisions it's all about some level of compromise, right. Um - okay, so yeah. What should you include? Compelling case for your viewpoint, basically, knowledge, experience, counterexamples, evidence. There will be specific instructions, as well, they'll tell you not so much with the argument, remember last week it was like really specifically like how to analyze. This is more like it's gonna - you're gonna be doing generally the same thing. Which is arguing for some side of the issue, but you're going to be doing it in like a different kind of way based on the scoring. Or the - the instructions that they give you.
Okay, um - so they give you an open-ended, controversial statement, right? And it's so broad, usually that like you can talk about it however, like it's gonna be something. It's always these like huge unanswerable questions basically.
Like about like societal problems, or like you know moral dilemmas, or things like these big questions that are really difficult to answer. Um - with any like correct answer, right. And then yeah - and then they'll give you on the prompt specific instructions like I said. Um - so you take the information, and you say, "Okay so I have this issue and they're asking me to - to you know, respond to it in this way", and then you're gonna start to. You're gonna - you're gonna have feelings - like strong feelings about like the issue - in like, and what you think about it. And some of you might be like pretty passionate about, and so you form your opinion, and then you kinda of argue for it, and you kind of bring in evidence and things like that. Um - and by doing that you're analyzing the issue, it's not - I don't know - I don't think analyzes is the right word. It's more of like - like backing up the issue - backing up a certain side of the issue, right. They call it analysis, but it is more, I think analyzing argument is more like analysis. This is more like, um - it's honestly just being able to talk about things intelligently, and with like evidence and logic, yeah, exactly. So yeah through a perspective, right so this is how to respond. You always want to like well I shouldn't say always, but you want to generally talk about through some kind of lens, right. And we do this all time, when we write and talk about issues. Is like - the way that like Socrates would argue if we recall on him from last slides, is he would say like - he would say like "hey so we - do we think."
Like that killing people in war is wrong?" or whatever, and then they would go through like a series of questions, and he would - and then they would be like "yeah, I think killing is wrong" and then Socrates would be like, "well what if someone came, and like attacked your family? Would killing them be all right then?", and he would just keep acting like a string of questions. By doing that, like notice he's putting it in - like a kind of actual way to talk about it, like an actual tangible - like example. Like.

**Audience Member:** [inaudible]

**Eric Dunk:** Yeah, yeah. And I mean Socrates was great at like getting you to state something that seemed obvious, and then getting you to like at the end of his line of questioning you'd be doubting yourself basically. Because he would always bring in like a multitude of examples, to kind of, show you why you were wrong actually. If you've read things like, you know - Plato's Republic or something like that. Um - Socrates is kind of a pain in the ass actually, um - so the reason I say that is in grad school you read a lot of theory, um. At least in my area of study, we read a lot of theory, and sometimes you're like - why all this theory? And they don't ever give - not that they don't ever give, but very rarely do they give an actual example where we can actually put the theory into practice", right.
Like it's like Marx and Communism, it sounds great on the page, like yeah everyone's sharing and everyone's happy; but then you put it into practice and it doesn't work so well. So I say that because it's like you wanna talk about this, you're gonna be given like a moral dilemma or something. Talk about it theoretically, but then like an actual instance in the real world, like in actual life where it could work, right - is really compelling for it - for an issue type response. Um - yeah, it's a lot of uh - cause you know if you just get these ideas they're just ideas, right. And they don't actually work until you put it into a thing to - to work with. Um, questions on that?

**Audience Member:** [inaudible] this is like a curious question. When you're - let's say I'm bringing up an example like, Abraham Lincoln for like that one that we had earlier. Do we have to - like is it beneficial, or um - I mean. Do they look for people to say like um - from this book or like from this. You know - you know what I'm trying to say. Like - like when you're writing like an essay like, for the format that we have to do for this. You usually source like places that it came from, like let's say I'm talking about gun control, and then I wanna talk about an article that I just read about how they implemented something that did something like that. I like - is it bad to just kind of talk about, and be like "here" and "I wonder why they did this".
The Issue: Continued

What do they give you?
- Open ended controversial statement
- Specific instructions on how to respond

With the information you will:
- Form an opinion and back it up
- Analyze the issue through this opinion
- Respond to the specific instructions

How to respond?
- “Through a perspective”
  - Personal experience, knowledge, history, evidence
  - Examples work

Things you have read, learned, or seen. *Examples given to theory!*

Or do I need to be like, you know -.

**Eric Dunk:** According to.

**Audience Member:** Right, right. Yeah, exactly, You kinda get what I'm getting at.

**Eric Dunk:** Yeah, um - I would say no, but you do bring up an interesting idea of like the original idea. Like if there ever was any such thing and all that stuff. Because like, I've read things like a lot of things throughout my life, and then I have all this random knowledge and I have no idea where I got it; but it came from somewhere. So you're gonna remember I guess, some of the things that like you did read, and you can reference them. Like I had a professor in college who told me this, or whatever, and that's like calling upon like your reference. But then also like you just have knowledge, that you just gathered from somewhere - you don't know where. What's hard about that on the GRE, what you're saying is that you don't have like an article, that you can cite right in front of you. You - and that's why the issue can be kinda scary for some people, because you have to call upon the things that you know, right just organically so.
Audience Member: [inaudible]

Eric Dunk: What they want to see.

Audience Member: Like are they gonna be like "oh, he's not sourcing this", or whatever

Eric Dunk: Yeah, plagiarism. Right, yeah. Yeah, um - pulling it out of your ass, I would say, make sure you're right. If you're gonna bring in some historical fact, make sure you damn well know what you're talking about, right. Cause they'll know, and they'll be able to know if you don't know, right. Um, but yeah that's totally fine, to call on things that you've read if you remember, right. You can be like "yeah like, you know read this great book, by this guy, like and he said this, which had a really profound impact on the way I think" or whatever. So yeah calling upon that's - that's even good I think to call upon, other people and other - other people who have discussed the same thing, or talk about something, or influenced the way that you think, right. Um - I'm trying to think if I did that on the GRE, I honestly don't remember what issue I got, but um - I remember the argument about the lavender scented pillows though. Um, yeah so you - so what I said back here,
The Issue: an Intro

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What should you include?

Compelling case for your viewpoint

  Knowledge, experience, counterexamples, evidence, &c.

Remember: there will be specific instructions!

[Silence]
Last Week: Arguments

The Argument Essay:
Evaluate the logical coherence of another writer’s presented argument. In doing so, you are demonstrating your skill for critical analysis. Writing should be clear, precise, and analytical.

- Logical soundness
- Logical progression
- Structure
- Unstated premise
- Assumptions

*Arguments are level-headed and logical (like Socrates)*

where did I say it?
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What should you include?
- Compelling case for your viewpoint
  - Knowledge, experience, counterexamples, evidence, &c.
  - Remember: there will be specific instructions!

I said like all inclusive somewhere,
The Issue: Continued

What do they give you?
- Open ended controversial statement
- Specific instructions on how to respond

With the information you will:
- Form an opinion and back it up
- Analyze the issue through this opinion
- Respond to the specific instructions

How to respond?
- "Through a perspective"
  - Personal experience, knowledge, history, evidence
  - Examples work

Things you have read, learned, or seen. *Examples given to theory!*

uh - not sure.
Yeah, all inclusive addressable sides - all inclusive is like bringing an author, or whatever. Bring in an author, bringing in a personal experience, bringing in some random fact that you know, or some - some random bits of knowledge. Because you're right, we do have all this knowledge that we don't know where it came from. We just read something along the way, or heard some long way and stuck with us, right.
The Issue: Continued

What do they give you?
- Open ended controversial statement
- Specific instructions on how to respond

With the information you will:
- Form an opinion and back it up
- Analyze the issue through this opinion
- Respond to the specific instructions

How to respond?
- “Through a perspective”
  - Personal experience, knowledge, history, evidence
- Examples work

  Things you have read, learned, or seen. *Examples given to theory!*

Um - okay,
Example:

Prompt:

The best way to parent is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones so children do not feel unloved.

“Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.”

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

okay let me look ahead here
Heads up! There will be different instructions

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the recommendation and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, describe specific circumstances in which adopting the recommendation would or would not be advantageous and explain how these examples shape your position.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the claims. In developing and supporting your position, be sure to address the most compelling reasons and/or examples that could be used to challenge your position.

for a sec. Uh - alright,
Example:

Prompt:

The best way to parent is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones so children do not feel unloved.

"Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position."

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

I just have a bunch of practice basically planned, um - and we can talk about this one. So this would be like a prompt that you would get, um - "the best way to parent is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones so children do not feel unloved", okay, so that's like - uh, that's a big thing to claim. Um - so the kinds of things that they would say is, "write response and would you either agree or disagree with the statement, uh - and explain your reasoning for the position you take" - uh, "in developing your ideas around the sentence you should consider ways in which the sentence might or might not hold true, and explain how these considerations shape your position". So what do they - what do they ask you to do basically? Maybe, oh - I think it's broken, yeah it's broken that's a bummer. Well we can just point to it, I hope that we can edit that out from the -. So like the second sentence is important, right.
Example:

Prompt:

The best way to parent is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones so children do not feel unloved.

“Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.”

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

Like the first sentence is kinda self-explanatory, but the second sentence is like you gotta consider both - they're telling you to consider both sides in this one, right. Might or might not hold true, so put it in like this is where you're gonna have to put it in an actual example, and say "hey", right "here's where it might hold true, here's where it might not hold true", right. Um - so what do you think about it? How would you respond? Like what's confusing but the prompt things like that.

Audience Member: Um - I don't - like unloved is a really like - sounds like a really complex topic. Like if it would've been like - to do with like dealing with like behavior, then I feel like that's different; but on love, it's like a really like complex topic in itself. You know what I mean, like love itself is very very subjective.

Eric Dunk: Okay, yeah.

Audience Member: Um - but I guess the one like thing that I would kind of think of for this, is you know how like when we're doing the arguments or analyzing the arguments. We do like the typical [inaudible] like we learning in High school - was like three points of why the argument is fallacious. Um - for this do you recommend like a similar style?
Example:

Prompt:

The best way to parent is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones so children do not feel unloved.

"Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position."

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

Eric Dunk: Mmm, yeah good question. Um - yeah so for the argument we advocated, right - the five paragraph essay. Um - this one, no, I'd probably do away with the five paragraph essay for this, but that's just because like that's tough. But I'm - I'm really confident as a writer, especially with issues to just dive right in, and just like - cause I majored in philosophy I like to argue, right and things like that. And I like to tell people what I believe um - so I'm confident in that sense to just be able to dive right in. I don't even need to pre-write and anything like that, I just start writing and I just kind of - I already know what I think about the issue, right. So um - but other people I would say they need more structure, and they need more of kind like a blueprint or a guideline to start writing. So that's gonna vary from person to person.

Audience Member: Cause like - I feel like I'm same with you. That I can - like I like arguing, and I can - I can always like give opinions on like you know topics with issues. But um - I feel like I just, I have a hard time putting it on paper, and I worry about whether it's gonna flow, you know - flow well, and actually look structured to whoever's reading it.
Example:

Prompt:

The best way to parent is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones so children do not feel unloved.

"Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position."

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

Eric Dunk: Right

Audience Member: Like I guess - I guess what I'm saying is - is how would you come up with kind of like a starting. Cause I think that's my hardest part is coming up with the starting point to this, because it kind of like deters the way that I'm gonna write for the rest of the paper, you know.

Eric Dunk: Mhm, what do you mean by like starting?

Audience Member: Like -

Eric Dunk: The intro? Or like the first thing you do? Or.

Audience Member: The first thing you - because I can - like you I can dive into it, but is it better if I start with a sentence that shows that - what I'm gonna talk about it? Or is it just okay to just kind of start talking about it, and then have a good conclusion at the end?
Example:

Prompt:

The best way to parent is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones so children do not feel unloved.

"Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position."

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

Eric Dunk: Right, um - there is more freedom with issues than arguments. They're more fun to write, I - you know, because there's more freedom. But I would probably like - I actually just might not just dive in. I would probably, like jot down some things that I was gonna argue. So like in my case, I kinda disagree with - I act - I disagree with this - with the issue. I think that kids need to be disciplined.

Audience Member: Right.

Eric Dunk: And so, I would bring up like instances in my own life - cause I was a lil shit when I was a little kid, so my parents disciplined me. And like if they didn't discipline me - like through my parents disciplining me, I gained respect for them, right, and if they didn't - then I would've just been like walking all over them or whatever, right. So um - and through that respect there's love, so I would probably start writing down that - would be like my starting point. Be like okay that was the first thing that came to my mind, was "discipline, we need discipline", right. Um - I was - yeah.

Audience Member: That's what I would do. That's probably what I would do, is I'd be - I would state that, um - I disagree with this statement.
Example:

Prompt:

The best way to parent is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones so children do not feel unloved.

"Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position."

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

Eric Dunk: Mhm, okay.

Audience Member: And then - kind of - like, but do you - I'm saying, do you - do you think you need to have an introduction paragraph to kinda like state the things you're gonna go over. That's kind of like what I'm getting at.

Eric Dunk: Okay, I see what you're saying. Um - the introduction can be done in a variety of ways, um - I was always like my introductions - to like talk about something like big, right. Um - like, you know - I would talk about this issue in a larger context. Like one of the things that comes - comes up right now is there's a - "there's a growing research, that says it's bad to spank your children". Um - now I don't know - I think it's bullshit, because like there's a lot of people who are like "oh my gosh you spank your children". Like and then there's a growing concern over that, right. I would maybe start with that - to be like, "hey there's this thing going on", right. And parents are more and more ignoring negative actions of children. Um - so like, I would maybe start like that maybe, and that's kind of opening up like a bigger issue or bigger topic, and then kind of finding my way into the issue like that.
Example:

Prompt:

The best way to parent is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones so children do not feel unloved.

"Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position."

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

You can start your intro, um - with like your own self, and to be like, "my parents disciplined me", right "I don't feel unloved", or whatever. Um - and I think what it's mostly talking about is - is children. Like litt - small children, right, who have - like the reason that people are against spanking it's like small child, large adult, authoritarian like, right. Like there's all these kind of ideas, or like there's a growing thing in psychology where that's bad for kids psych - psychological, whatever. Um - you know embarrassment, and things like that. Yeah, yeah um - but you know - then there's the more traditional people who you know, "yeah, I'm gonna wash your mouth out with soap when you cuss", or whatever. So um - yeah, um - that - I didn't answer your question, but.

Audience Member: I mean that uh - that answered my question, um - because I mean the way I'd probably tackle this, is I would say I you know, "this is a statement I -" I mean like I don't know. "I pretty much disagree with", um - you know what I mean, like and then kinda go into it. But it's just, I guess it's just difficult for me to just be like, you know - should I have an introduction paragraph, but I would - I guess that I'd take the stance that you're doing that.

Eric Dunk: Okay.
Example:

Prompt:

**The best way to parent is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones so children do not feel unloved.**

“Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.”

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

**Audience Member:** Might and try do something where it kind of paves a path for them, but doesn't really state exactly what I'm gonna talk about. Because I feel like what I'm gonna talk about is kinda gonna flow out as I, you know - write.

**Eric Dunk:** Uh-huh.

**Audience Member:** You know a certain problem, dealing with personal experience is kinda for this. So I don't know, maybe I would state off like, "I disagree with this statement because of my own personal experiences, and things that I've".

**Eric Dunk:** Right.

**Audience Member:** You know, learned throughout my life, you know what I mean.

**Eric Dunk:** Yeah, um - I think it is always important in an introduction to like ease your reader into the discussion. Like if your first sentence was like, "I disagree with that statement", you just sound like a pontificating asshole at that point or whatever, right.
I think you kind of want to like introduce the topic before you come in, like strong, right. Um - because then it kind of sets up the stage to be like, "okay, this is what we're gonna be talking about", and I know that we're gonna like gets some opinions basically. Rather than just like coming out and saying - I don't know, you know - I always start my introductions with some kind of context, for sure. Like some kind of like, like um - I'm just trying to think of like papers that I've written, like.

**Audience Member:** I feel like this one might be a good idea to start with questions in the first paragraph to kind of like stimulate them.

**Eric Dunk:** Okay, yeah. Yeah, um - you can do that. I do - I do caution people on that tactic though, um - it is good to ask those rhetorical questions, but I would probably say you only get one, right. Like you only get one in the whole paper, so it better be a damn good one. Um - starting with a question too can be kind of cheesy, I think. Um - or like - cheesy might not be the right word; but it's not as uh - it doesn't ta - exactly. It doesn't sound as sophisticated or intelligent to kind of start with like a "what if", or like a hypothetical. Like we've seen that kind of cookie-cutter writing so many times that it's just kind of like, right. So um - again like keep in mind like, this is gonna be read by people who have like PhDs probably and things like that. So they - they are.
Example:

Prompt:

The best way to parent is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones so children do not feel unloved.

"Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position."

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

Eric Dunk: They know their stuff, yeah - you're not gonna bullshit them. Um - so yeah if you just want to jot it down, I guess introduction should always kind of start with a context. You can do that in so many ways though, um - I'm just like - like I wrote a paper one time about um - I wrote this paper in this GE class that I took. About Capitalism and greed and what I called "economic morality", um - and I started the essay by just saying like, "hey like recently I've been getting really concerned with with ethics and an economics and how those kind of tie in together". And I kinda gave a history, like it ended up being - like a history of how I've become interested in the topic of economics and, um - and moral, uh - kind of moral standards in a capitalist system right. And then like that was my introduction, right. So kind of little more unorthodox, but still that put it in a context of like, "hey this is how I got to this point". So you can even start with this one, right, um - I've heard in the field of psychology that there's a growing scholarship against spanking, and I think it's bullshit, or something like that, right. Even though you wouldn't say those exact words, but yeah, um - so introductions kind of it's like - they're like doorways to like o-open - like to get into the room. And just say like, "okay here we are in this room of this issue", or whatever. Uh - that might be a lame metaphor, but um - okay.
Heads up! There will be different instructions

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the recommendation and explain you reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, describe specific circumstances in which adopting the recommendation would or would not be advantageous and explain how these examples shape your position.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the claims. In developing and supporting your position, be sure to address the most compelling reasons and/or examples that could be used to challenge your position.

They'll be different instructions, right. Um - so they all start the same - kind of, right. "Do you agree or disagree", is kind of how they all start, but then like the first one says, you know what we just talked about. "How it might or might not hold true and how these considerations shape your opinion".
Example:

Prompt:

The best way to parent is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones so children do not feel unloved.

“Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.”

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

So like what would that look like on this one? Like what kind of considerations? Like how might the statement hold true?

Audience Member: Like from your own personal experience.

Eric Dunk: Mhm.

Audience Member: And then, might not - you could bring up somebody that you've read about um, - but are you asking like what they're looking for?
Example:

Prompt:
The best way to parent is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones so children do not feel unloved.

"Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position."

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

Like, you know - the might or might not - hold true - explain like - like how these could - I guess this one's kinda weird, because it's asking how might or might not hold true, and explain how these considerations shape your position. So.

Eric Dunk: Right.

Audience Member: It's kind of like from my own personal experience. I - you know - "I don't agree with the statement because um - I was disciplined more as a child, and" kinda like what you said. Um - and then - and then when you say like the might not, is that kind of basically your - but this is how these considerations shape your position. So finally like, you know - "from this instance that" you know - I read about, or whatever. And you explain it, um - you say, "like might not hold true, but I don't believe in this method, because I think this is a special, you know - a special circumstance" or something. Like.

Eric Dunk: Right.

Audience Member: Because it's asking you how these considerations shape your position.
Example:

Prompt:

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"Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position."

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

So if you say like the might not one, and you know - you are stating that, that's kinda like the opposite of what you feel and how it might not hold true. Then you pretty much have to shoot it down, because it's asking you how it shapes your position.

Eric Dunk: Well it's saying, the statement itself, right. "The best way parent, blah blah blah", "how might that statement hold true", and "how might not it hold true?". Okay and then "explain how these considerations shape your opinion", so like one of the things that pops out to me is it's a total like duality of like, "you should only praise positive actions, and you should ignore negative ones". That word 'ignore' is really strong, um - it's a - but like we know it's balance, right. Like parents should praise positive actions, but they sure as hell should not ignore negative ones, right. Um - it kinda it [inaudible] like you brought in like the subjective thing, like it depends subjectively on how kids respond to discipline, and blah blah blah, or whatever. Like when I was in high school and my parents disciplined me, like it just made me want to lash out even more. Like I was super rebellious, so in that instance you might say like, "the statement - like might hold true in the sense of like a super rebellious teenager", you know. In the sense that by when they were like disciplining my negative actions all time, it just made me like - resent them more, right. Um - cause I was a rebellious little shit, like I said.
Example:

Prompt:

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What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

So that's how the statement might hold true, yeah in some circumstances, may be praising the positive actions is the bests route. Right, if you have rebellion or you know, um - if your relationship is - is rocky, or whatever, right. Um - how the statement might not hold true, well little kids they need to basically. That it's not okay punch your sister in the face, or whatever you know - I don't know, right. Um - so children, right, there's a lot of ranges between that, that goes from zero to 18, and maybe even beyond 18 in some circumstances. But um - and then the second part of that, considering how shapes your position that's shaping your position, because I kinda just came to the idea like, "oh, it must be a balance", right. It must be like - you mu- like you should always praise the positive, right. And be like, "yeah, good! Like that's awesome, right", but when the negative stuff comes up, you should not ignore it, right. Um - so that, those considerations of like when I was a small child I needed to be disciplined, right. And then, you know - when I was older in high school my parents disciplining me just made me resent them even more. Um - so that kind of uh - those two angles that I would talk about. Had shaped my position of, "oh, it's a balance", right. Mkay, so is that - does that clear that up a little bit. Alright, so like - I don't know - I like to - I talk about myself. So I'll bring in myself a lot in these, to kind of - to shape my position.
Heads up! There will be different instructions

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Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the recommendation and explain you reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, describe specific circumstances in which adopting the recommendation would or would not be advantageous and explain how these examples shape your position.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the claims. In developing and supporting your position, be sure to address the most compelling reasons and/or examples that could be used to challenge your position.

Okay, so second one says, "in developing and supporting your position, describe a specific circumstance in which you would adopt a recommendation or which you would not adopt the recommendation". Um - "and explain how these examples shape your position". So that would be like what we just did too.
Example:

Prompt:
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“Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.”

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

Like there's a specific circumstance of like when I was a kid, I can remember still to this day when my dad washed my mouth out with soap. So it's like - that's a specific circumstance, right. Um - and then obviously the things I went through in high school - when I was in high school. So
um - that's more like concrete examples or situations, that you've witnessed or have even been a part of. Okay, um "developing and supporting your position, be sure to address the most compelling reasons and/or examples that can be used to challenge your position". So that one's kinda interesting, cause you're gonna be talking mostly - like how would that one look?

**Audience Member:** Wait do you mean like, looking at the third one.
Heads up! There will be different instructions

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the recommendation and explain you reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, describe specific circumstances in which adopting the recommendation would or would not be advantageous and explain how these examples shape your position.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the claims. In developing and supporting your position, be sure to address the most compelling reasons and/or examples that could be used to challenge your position.

**Eric Dunk:** Yeah, yeah. Um - "Address the most compelling reasons and/or examples that can be used to challenge your position". Like that ones gonna be like.

**Audience Member:** So they are asking you to bring up counter examples.

**Eric Dunk:** Yeah they are, yes they are. Yeah, they're asking you to bring up pretty much only counter examples, so like going back to the intro question. Your intro might change based on what you get. Like my intro for that one would be like, "Hey here's the issue, I disagree with the issue, but other people say this", right. Like on the third one it would change, so you're - it's gonna be kind of shape around what you believe and things like that. Alright?

**Audience Member:** So when you're writing based on the third one. Um.

**Eric Dunk:** Yeah, keep talking.

**Audience Member:** When you bring up like the counter examples in this one, it seems you shouldn't shoot them down, you should just bring up what the arguments could be against your.
Example:

Prompt:

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“Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.”

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

Eric Dunk: Yup.

Audience Member: Opinion, right.

Eric Dunk: Yeah, what - so with this issue, what would challenge our - challenge our opinion?

Audience Member: The kind of like that - those like videos are like online of like parents like embarrassing their kids by making them do stuff to like punish them. And then there's been like some suicide cases or whatever, for kids. So like stuff like that.

Eric Dunk: Yeah, yeah. Um - good. Yeah, that's good. So like one of the things - yeah like you could - you're challenged also directly by the field of psychology that's saying, "Hey this might be like a problem we haven't thought about", right.
We've always just kind of disciplined our kids, and that's kind of been the thing, right. Now all of these psychologists are saying like, "well hold on a minute, what are we doing psychologically to our children". Um - yeah, and then the suicide cases. Like I think it's Japan has the highest suicide rate, that's because in Japan like their education like is super strict, and like it's like - it's crazy. Like they pretty much like - like your life is only school when you're like - are in Japan, when you're a kid. And so like all these pressures like leave kids to commit suicide unfortunately. Um - and so you could say like, "the pressures of like negative like attitudes" or whatever. Negative kinds of things, like how shitty of a feeling is it - that you worked on this paper for weeks, and you put hours and hours and hours into it and then you turn it in and comes back all marked up red with a D on top of it. And you're just crushed, right. So like that would be like not necessarily parenting, but like in schooling - the negative responses we would get can make us lose confidence, feel inadequate - things like that. So notice, I shifted the discussion over schooling, but there's also like a "parent figure" in schooling with your teacher, right. So talking about the same thing in a different context, the same issue in a different context. Um - so good we just came up with a whole string of examples, right. That make us kind of pause for a second, like "wait, maybe - maybe they have a point here", right.
Example:

Prompt:

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“Write a response in which you either agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing your ideas around the sentence, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.”

What do you think? How would you respond? What about the prompt?

Um - I think - and I think at the end of the day that they do have a point, but like the word "ignore" for me is way too strong, um - "unloved" too, I have questions about that.

**Audience Member:** Yeah, that's what I was saying like those are really like strong like words.

**Eric Dunk:** Um - yeah strong word choice there in the second part of it, and it's saying too "the best way". Well what is the best way? What is the best way to parent. What? Like who has the - the guidebook for that, I'd love to read it, right. Every kid is different would be another challenge. And like to - any position.

**Audience Member:** And like environments you're growing up in and stuff.

**Eric Dunk:** Oh yeah, exactly. Yeah um - parenting changes, based on so many things. Like culture, and socioeconomic standing, and all these things, right. So um - notice that the issue is like huge, right. If we just bring in like even the socioeconomic like viewpoints of parenting, or whatever. Uh - that blows - blows the lid off of it, so um - yeah, a lot to say about it, for sure. Um - okay, good.
Heads up! There will be different instructions

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the recommendation and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, describe specific circumstances in which adopting the recommendation would or would not be advantageous and explain how these examples shape your position.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the claims. In developing and supporting your position, be sure to address the most compelling reasons and/or examples that could be used to challenge your position.

So yeah it's just the different types of instructions, um - that third one will really get you thinking about like, "Oh yeah, there are all these counterexamples". Um - okay,
so I have a full practice planned. Yeah, Charlie - I don't know why I kept using Charlie Brown. So you have class at 3:30, right. So maybe only one full practice, it's 2:45 we do a full - or like you can practice for 25 minutes like by writing an actual essay, and then we can talk about it really quick.

Full Practice!

Now we will actually respond to a prompt. 30 minutes! Pretend like this is for real.

30 minutes:
- Consider issue
- Plan response
- Write the essay
30 Minutes: Full Practice

Governments should decrease spending on the military and use that money for education.

Write a response in which you agree or disagree with the claim. Then consider how your side on the issue could be a detriment to society.
Again! Full Practice

Nations should pass laws to preserve the natural wilderness of their countries, even if those areas could be built on for economic growth.

Write a response in which you discuss your views on the policy and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider the possible consequence of implementing or not implementing the policy and explain how these consequences shape your position.
which one interests you more, "Government should decrease spending on the military and use that money for education";
"Nations should pass laws to preserve the natural wilderness of their country, even if those areas can be built on for economic growth". The first one, okay,
So, "Write a response in which you agree or disagree with the claim, then consider how your side on the issue could be a detriment to society". Okay,

**Audience Member**: Too bad we can't choose on the GRE.
30 Minutes: Full Practice

Governments should decrease spending on the military and use that money for education.

Write a response in which you agree or disagree with the claim. Then consider how your side on the issue could be a detriment to society.

Eric Dunk: I know, right. Yeah, yeah. So I'll put on time for like 25 minutes, alright, and you'll be writing.

Audience Member: That was like an easy one for me.

Eric Dunk: Yeah.

Audience Member: Yeah.

Eric Dunk: Why's that?

Audience Member: Cause - I don't know, I feel strongly about like um - that education is kinda the means for solving all problems, and I kinda started out with - I started out with saying being dual citizen of the United States, and that means I have the privilege of seeing two types of kind of government spending. One spending a lot on education, one spending a lot on military, and then kinda went into how although like investing in education is a long-term strategy in the end it's better for society as a whole.
Like military - and then I even went into.

**Eric Dunk:** What was that first thing you said?

**Audience Member:** Which part?

**Eric Dunk:** The uh - you said something about, "you've seen the government both spend money on".

**Audience Member:** Oh - oh, I'm dual citizenship, so I.

**Eric Dunk:** Oh okay.

**Audience Member:** So I'm a citizen.

**Eric Dunk:** Where at?

**Audience Member:** In the Netherlands in Europe.
Eric Dunk: Netherlands, okay.

Audience Member: And then also in America, and so I kinda have the privilege of seeing like both types of spending.

Eric Dunk: Right.

Audience Member: Cause they're more Socialist and they spend more money on education, and then here it's kinda the opposite.

Eric Dunk: Oh, yeah. We put education first. Yeah, yeah um - yeah, I think the Netherlands had like crazy high scoring for like - they're like one of the most educated countries, I think. Um - cool were you born in.

Audience Member: I was born here, and then actually baptized in Holland when I was at 3 months old, but my first language was Dutch and then I picked up on English when I started going to school here.
30 Minutes: Full Practice

Governments should decrease spending on the military and use that money for education.

Write a response in which you agree or disagree with the claim. Then consider how your side on the issue could be a detriment to society.

Eric Dunk: Oh cool, that's awesome man. Um - yeah, no - I mean I feel strongly about it too because - I mean I do think that education like can solve a lot, like crime - I think is one of the prob - like one of the things that speaks to an uneducated country. An uneducated country will have higher crime, basically what I think. So um - yeah in - in America though um - you know the military has become like an industry, right. And um - I read this fascinating book by a uh - professor here at Chico State, who wrote about how in the last eh - basically World War I and on, we've treated going to war as an industry, as a ways of economic stimulation. We join wars to stimulate our economy, and not only our economy; but interestingly enough the global economy benefits when America does well. Yeah, so it's really interesting, because the issue is there's just crazy amounts of money that go into investing into the war industry of America.

Audience Member: I even put them up like basically face to face, and I put going back to - like education and military if government were to spend more on education, it would make it so people can solve problems without having to go to war.

Eric Dunk: Right.
30 Minutes: Full Practice

Governments should decrease spending on the military and use that money for education.

Write a response in which you agree or disagree with the claim. Then consider how your side on the issue could be a detriment to society.

Audience Member: Not have to spend money in the military.

Eric Dunk: Mhm, yeah, yeah. So there's deep interest in the military functioning as a machine of profit, bas- like yeah, which is really ominous to think about. Um - so in that book, it was called like 'The Consequences of Unchecked Power", and he talks about how 9/11 gave us the ability to declare war on any country.

Audience Member: Right, exactly.

Eric Dunk: We declared war on terror, which means we can literally just pick any country, and be like "oh they have terrorists there, so we're gonna go to war there". Um - allowing America to pretty much be constantly at war, so that we can have this uh - industry and this economic prosperity, or whatever you know.

Audience Member: [inaudible]

Eric Dunk: On the other side of that though, investing in education, right. That - that's good that you uh - feel strongly about that. Cause like the Netherlands, do they even have a military? Like.
Audience Member: I mean they do, but I mean it's.

Eric Dunk: It's super like, it's not yeah.

Audience Member: I mean the only.

Eric Dunk: It's like regulated by the UN and things like that, I'm sure.

Audience Member: One of things that I put in, like here - like as like a counterpoint, which I think is kind of important is that in America the military is a place for people such as high school dropouts to kind of find a path in life, and find like discipline. To kind of - you know set them up to be successful before they - you know go into the private - you know private like industries in [inaudible]. So like that's one thing that I put as like - that could be a detriment to society especially.

Eric Dunk: Oh yeah.

Audience Member: And then the initial, um - kind of the initial shift from spending more in education than the military, in a country like - such as, America.
Could leave it like very vulnerable, and you know, um - to a country who wants to attack them. At a time that they know they're gonna spend more in c-cost like military. So like those are the two things that I put for - those could be detriments to society, but.

**Eric Dunk:** Yeah, I think so. Um - yeah, I mean there's so many complex things that go into it. Yeah, one of my - one of my great friends from high school was just like, "I'm not gonna go to college, why would I do that?", and then he kinda didn't know what he was gonna do. And then he was like "oh, I'll just join the military".

**Audience Member:** Right, so I mean in that sense like it could be a good thing, but.

**Eric Dunk:** Yeah.

**Audience Member:** At the end like - like the way I concluded was, "although these are consider- these negative circumstances are possible, like it helps us realize that - in like um - that change in spending more on education then military must be done overtime, and with like a strategic plan to take in these negative accounts. Like into, you know - into consideration".
Eric Dunk: Yeah, yeah um - and I think a lot of times - like the government is wary of spending money on education. Cause they feel like it's throwing money into like - a black hole. Where they don't see the - but there's real like.

Audience Member: It takes time.

Eric Dunk: It takes time, and I think that there is real like economic opportunities if we invest in education. Um - like I don't know if you ever - did you watch the show Cosmos with Neil Degrasse Tyson? Um - he brings when Egypt built the library of Alexandria in like you know - 500 BC. It was like they invested so much money into building this like huge library, it's the biggest library in the world for like thousands of years. Um - I think it's still today the biggest li - like it burned down and then they rebuilt it library and it’s the biggest library I think, in the world. And they invested so much in education - that like, at first it was like the people who lived in Alexandria were like, "cool we got this like library" and all - but then eventually scholars from all over the world, found out that "woah, Egypt has this huge library we need to go there to research " and it brought people. Right, so um - that would be one thing that I would bring up is it had an actual - like beneficial effect for Egypt. In the sense where it was like, for thousands of years Egypt was like the center of knowledge.
30 Minutes: Full Practice

Governments should decrease spending on the military and use that money for education.

Write a response in which you agree or disagree with the claim. Then consider how your side on the issue could be a detriment to society.

Like if you wanted to learn something, you’d go to Egypt basically.

Audience Member: Edu- like education, I like - I mean, I don't even know how it's argued still, but I feel like it's hands down like the number one way to solve things. But the only thing though - that the problem is what kind of, you were already talking about. Is the money thing, like that's the only thing that's stopping it - is that you know - it's a long term investment. And especially with a country like the U.S., that's in debt - like people are afraid to commit to that.

Eric Dunk: Yeah, yeah.

Audience Member: To put in money to that.

Eric Dunk: Like I think with spending money on the military, we see an immediate like return on investment. Like - like - when we invest in guns and tanks, and like - like we see like an actual product, and we see an actual economic stimulation.
But yeah, you're right - investing in education that might take a hundred years. [inaudible]

**Audience Member:** I mean with a war you can see like things being blown up and stuff by the army. But you're not gonna see like - people like do something significant right away, like it takes time for people. Like it's starts at the bottom and then has to come out [inaudible]. So I mean education like could take, you know - realistically - I'm thinking like probably the life of like, you know - like a kid growing up. So I would take like - so I would say like 20 years to see some real improvements in society. Where you're really seeing it go from the ground up. You know.

**Eric Dunk:** Yeah, exactly. So, yeah good - interesting.

**Audience Member:** So that's - that's an easy one for me to write about.

**Eric Dunk:** I should've had you write about the other one then.

**Audience Member:** Yeah, I know.
Again! Full Practice

Nations should pass laws to preserve the natural wilderness of their countries, even if those areas could be built on for economic growth.

Write a response in which you discuss your views on the policy and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider the possible consequence of implementing or not implementing the policy and explain how these consequences shape your position.

I was thinking if you were me - you could've done that
just to challenge me.

Discussion

Agree or disagree?
  Reasons for this?
  Evidence you brought in?
  Thoughts on the process?

Difficulties?
  Remembering, take a strong position
    This isn’t always easy
  Addressing opposition is usually important
    This can be difficult when you feel strongly about something

Where do you think you fell short?
  Places you got hung up?
  Ideas you could’ve strengthened?
30 Minutes: Full Practice

Governments should decrease spending on the military and use that money for education.

Write a response in which you agree or disagree with the claim. Then consider how your side on the issue could be a detriment to society.

Eric Dunk: Uh - it's all good. I think writing about what you're passionate about is good, you know. Um - even though on the GRE you might get something super lame like the
Again! Full Practice

Nations should pass laws to preserve the natural wilderness of their countries, even if those areas could be built on for economic growth.

Write a response in which you discuss your views on the policy and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider the possible consequence of implementing or not implementing the policy and explain how these consequences shape your position.

"cutting down on national forests" or whatever, even if it could be built for. But um - yeah whatever, it's fine to be able.

Audience Member: Like the second one would just be like hard for me to write, because then you kinda like have to dig deeper and kind of like think of stuff. But I know friends that are like really involved in like - sustainability and then they could just bring up, you know - examples after examples. And it's like that wouldn't come as easily to me, I mean I could do it, but I'd - I'd have to think about it more.
Discussion

Agree or disagree?
Reasons for this?
Evidence you brought in?
Thoughts on the process?

Difficulties?
Remembering, take a strong position
This isn't always easy
Addressing opposition is usually important
This can be difficult when you feel strongly about something

Where do you think you fell short?
Places you got hung up?
Ideas you could've strengthened?

Eric Dunk: Yeah, yeah, exactly. So
Good luck on the GRE!

Eric Dunk  
Appointments:  
Thursday 9-10/11-12  
Drop in  
Tuesday 10-12  
Thursday 10-11  
Student Learning Center  
530-698-6839  
Call for appointments or information!  
Thanks for coming and participating!

yeah man, um - so this is actually the last session.