

250 to 250:

One-Minute Arguments

1

WAGOLL (What A Good One Looks Like) Study

WAGOLL Study

1. Select 4-5 example videos to show students.
2. Ask them to record their thinking about how arguments like this are constructed.
3. Share out as a class, creating a master list of things they will need to do in order to create a *250 to 250* video that will fit in with the others on YouTube.

2

Idea Generation

(Use these as rotating stations or as a choice board!)

05

5 MIN

Category Speed Round

Argue, don't just recall

BEST FOR: LANDING ON
SOMETHING GENUINELY
DEBATABLE

1

60 seconds each, back to back, name someone or something that fits:

2

changed America but rarely gets discussed → quietly shaped a major event
→ is widely misunderstood → gets too MUCH credit → gets too LITTLE credit

3

The last two prompts are the fastest route to a real, arguable claim.

4

Pick your strongest answer and move to a one-sentence claim.

3

Research / Inquiry

Things to Point Out About Research/ Inquiry

- If research is going well, our questions lead us to NEW questions as we research. Don't be afraid to ADD questions as you work. That's good research!
- We won't use everything we discover in our final video, and that's okay! That's also good research! There are things that are interesting that aren't necessarily important to the text we are creating right now.
 - Consider having students go through

4

Script-Writing Flash Draft

Here's the thing about flash drafts...

- They are meant to be **FAST**.

You are trying to get information out of your head quickly, not perfectly. This helps you create a draft that you can work with!

- They are meant to be **DRAFTS**.

The writing will not be good. It *should not* be good. It will not be organized. You will not use the just-right words. That's okay! That's the point! It's much easier to polish a rough rough draft than to wait for the perfect writing to magically appear!

Flash Draft Instructions

- Open a new doc (or a clean piece of paper).
- Open your inquiry and research document.
- Quickly, write down as many facts and opinions about why your topic matters as possible.
 - Don't worry about paragraphing, organization, spelling.
 - Leave blanks where you need to fill in information later through further research.
 - Tell yourself: this is a draft! It's supposed to be "bad".
 - Don't even begin to think about length/ time right now! You just want to get down everything that is in your heads / in your research.
- This sentence-starter might help you get going if you feel stuck: _____ is important because _____.

5

Identifying a claim, evidence, and so what?

Arguments have these three parts:

Claim – the main point / main argument

Evidence – things that support and validate that argument

So What? – why this matters at all.

Claim

In a 250 to 250 video, the claim is implied: “This person/place/event is important in making America.”

Evidence

Here, the evidence is what happened that made that person, place, or event important.

So What?

The so what is the effect this person, place, or event had – both in their present and on us today.

Color-Marking!

[Watch “The Great Crash of 1929”.](#)

Go [through the transcript](#) and do some colormarking so you can see the different parts.

- Mark the claim in one color.
- Mark all evidence in a second color.
- Mark the so what in a third color.

6

Layering Evidence with Visuals

In a 1-minute 250 to 250 video,
we need about 10-12 images.

We don't want images just as decoration, though. We want the images we use to be supporting what we are saying.

1. Find public domain images
that match your topic.

[Here's a doc of resources!](#)

2. Ask yourself: what part of my script does each public domain image match?

Keep in mind, you will also want to show YOUR face in your video, too, so you do not need an image for every single line of your script.

Put them in order in the storyboard!

Here's the [storyboard doc](#).

- When you don't have an image and/or want to include the video of you speaking, just write that in the IMAGE blank instead of inserting an image.
- There are 12 panels here, but 12 isn't a magic number. You may have more or fewer.
 - Each image might have one sentence or multiple sentences of script attached to it!

7

Script Polishing & Practicing

You probably have last-minute work to do on your project to get it ready for recording!

Today you should

- Finish outstanding tasks to get your project ready for recording.
- Practice reading your script ALOUD – to friends, to yourself. Read it aloud 10 times before you start recording!

8

Recording & Editing

Publication Party