

Regents Exam Part 2 Example

Argument Essay 150 Points

Directions: Closely read each of the *three* texts provided and write a source-based argument on the topic below. You may use the margins to take notes as you read and scrap paper to plan your response.

Topic: Should the United States adopt Norway’s prison system?

Your Task: Carefully read each of the *three* texts provided. Then, using evidence from all *three* of the texts, write a well-developed argument regarding whether or not the United States should adopt Norway’s prison system. Clearly establish your claim, distinguish your claim from alternate or opposing claims, and use specific, relevant, and sufficient evidence from all three of the texts to develop your argument. Do *not* simply summarize each text.

Guidelines:

Be sure to:

- Establish your claim regarding whether or not the United States should adopt Norway’s prison system
 - Distinguish your claim from alternate or opposing claims
 - Use specific, relevant, and sufficient evidence from all *three* of the texts to develop your argument
 - Identify each source that you reference by text number and line number(s) or graphic (for example: Text 1, line 4 or Text 2, graphic)
 - Organize your ideas in a cohesive and coherent manner
 - Maintain a formal style of writing
 - Follow the conventions of standard written English
 - Write approximately two pages, double spaced.
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- **Texts:**
 - Text 1 —Why Norway's Prison System Is so Successful
 - Text 2 — Not the Worst, but Not Norway: U.S. Prisons vs. Other Models
 - Text 3 –The ‘World’s Most Humane’ Prison System is so Overcrowded, It’s Now Sending Criminals Abroad

Late Policy: -10 points per day, up to three days.