

**Steps in the Synthesis Essay Writing Process:**

- I. Read the essay instructions and write the task below:
  
- II. Read through all the documents in 15 minutes (15 minutes were added to the AP exam for this question)
- III. For each document write the factor(s) the document addresses.
  - A:
  
  - B:
  
  - C:
  
  - D:
  
  - E:
  
  - F:
  
  - G:

III. Choose the most important factors and write them in the table below. Under each factor write three quotes that address those factors.

FACTOR 1	FACTOR 2	FACTOR 3
Quote	Quote	Quote
Quote	Quote	Quote
Quote	Quote	Quote
Personal example (see IV)	Personal example (see IV)	Personal example (see IV)

IV. (In the last square above) Write one personal example for each factor that you could bring to the essay: (your personal knowledge, experience, reading, observation).

V. Write a (minimum of one) well-developed paragraph (**conversation**) for each factor using at least two of the quotes. Make sure that there is a connection between the two sources as they relate to and support your factor. You may include your personal examples in this conversation, also. You should have **one to two well-developed paragraphs for each factor**.

**Student Sample:** this example does not have task V. included. So, read the directions and follow carefully. Do your best!

I. Task : My task is to write an essay that synthesizes at least three of the sources for support while evaluating the most important factors that a school should consider before using particular technologies in curriculum and instruction.

II. Factors the document addresses

- A: Engaging students in learning.
- B: Communicating with students who grew up with technology.
- C: Time and the ability to process information by ourselves.
- D: Decreasing the ability to write.
- E: Lack of attention span, too much information, and lack of substance.
- F: Isolating ourselves to virtual worlds instead of discovering the real world.

III. Important Factors and Quotes (*I've only included one factor sample here. The student did 4 factors, actually.*)

FACTOR 1 Time and the ability to process information by ourselves.	FACTOR 2 <i>I only included one factor as an example. See note above</i>	FACTOR 3 <i>I only included one factor as an example. See note above</i>
QUOTE "It used to be that machines ... which takes our time" (Source C).	QUOTE	QUOTE
QUOTE "The physical friction of everyday life ... into an opportunity lost" (Source C). "From airline miles to calories ... we count things by the minute and the second "(Source C)	QUOTE	QUOTE
QUOTE "But today's children ...their ability to process information for themselves (Source C).	QUOTE	QUOTE
Personal example (see IV) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• My cousin did a virtual dissection of a pig instead of a real dissection like I did in biology. I don't want my pet's surgery to be the first</li><li>• real surgery a veterinarian has performed.</li> <li>• My six-year-old little sister finds more entertainment in watching videos, playing on the computer, and pretend texting, rather than</li><li>• reading books, making up a game with friends, and playing outside.</li> <li>• I have seen many people addicted to their cell phones and in turn can't get anything important accomplished.</li></ul>	Personal example (see IV)	Personal example (see IV)

IV. Personal Experiences ↑

V. NOTE ABOUT V: For each factor, you should have a CONVERSATIONAL discussion with each source (quote) as it is related to the factor and the other quotes that support the factor, as well. Your personal experiences are used in the discussion, also.