Checkpoint 2: Preliminary Research Question and Stimulus Argument Analyses

# What to Do

After discussing the broader themes and brainstorming, students will begin to generate their related lines of inquiry, using mind-mapping activities and preliminary research to help guide their choices. Ultimately students will select a research question to evaluate and submit their question, along with argument analyses of the two sources in the stimulus material from which they generated their topic. The document will follow teacher-specified formatting rules (MLA, APA, Chicago, etc.). The assignment title is at the top of the paper, and the content begins with the research question. Next is the bibliographic information for the first source of the stimulus materials, in alphabetical order and properly formatted. The annotation will follow (about 250 words each), answering the questions below (repeat for the second source):

* What is the main argument, idea, or thesis of the work or source selection?
* What is the line of reasoning, identified claims, and evidence provided in support of the main idea or thesis?
* Why is the evidence effective? What is its contribution to the research question? (Include the rationale for its purposeful use, type of document, relation to the question, authority, and credibility)?