

Structured Academic Controversy

I. Read the central historical question.

II. Preparation for SAC

- a. Form groups of four.
 - i. Meet your partner.
 - ii. Identify the position that your partner team will defend.
Side 1: YES, Americans supported the Butler Act.
Side 2: NO, Americans did not support the Butler Act.
- b. Everyone reads through the set of documents and looks for evidence to support their side of the argument.

III. Position Presentation

- a. Pair 1 presents their position using supporting evidence from the texts.
- b. Pair 2 restates Pair 1's position to Pair 1's satisfaction.
- c. Pair 2 presents their position using supporting evidence from the texts.
- d. Pair 1 restates Pair 2's position to Pair 2's satisfaction.

IV. Consensus-Building

- a. Pair 1 and Pair 2 put their roles aside.
- b. Groups discuss ideas that have been presented regarding the inquiry question.
 - i. Figure out where you can agree.
 - ii. Figure out where you differ.
- c. Groups develop consensus, and answer the central historical question (or at least clarify where their differences lie), using supporting evidence.