



# Thinking Nation

## Curated Research Papers (CRPs)

Curated Research Papers (CRPs) are similar to document-based questions (DBQs) but have unique features that differentiate them. Thinking Nation rebranded these as CRPs to emphasize their distinct approach, which involves leveraging background knowledge, making connections to contemporary relevance, and providing a scaffolded structure to support the writing process.

Here's why CRPs are beneficial in the social studies classroom:

- **Enhanced Critical Thinking:** CRPs teach students to analyze and interpret information, thereby fostering critical thinking skills. They also focus on specific historical thinking skills aligned with each CRP.
- **Exposure to Scholarly Methods:** Students learn about scholarly work and academic standards, which prepares them for higher education.
- **Deepened Understanding:** CRPs offer detailed and thorough analyses of topics, challenging the superficial coverage often found in textbooks.
- **Improved Information Literacy:** Students develop skills to identify credible sources and differentiate types of evidence.
- **Active Engagement:** CRPs encourage students to actively engage with complex historical issues, echoing John Green's sentiment that "history is too complex for any one way of looking to suffice."
- **College Prep:** They prepare students for college-level writing and thinking by teaching them to structure arguments and support them with evidence.

All CRPs are available on the Thinking Nation platform and can be instantly graded using generative technology. Our platform offers a myriad of CRPs that are aligned to various standards. Check it out!