

Discussion Question 1

- **Due Date:** Day 2 [Main forum]
- Read *A Nation Apart* at <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1862596,00.html>
- **Post** your response to the following: Identify the thesis statement in the article *A Nation Apart*. What strategies does the author use to formulate his argument? What makes the arguments so viable and compelling?

I am remembering that the thesis statement appears in the first paragraph, the introductory paragraph, and has no more than 25 words in it. Applying that information into what I just read, I believe this is the thesis statement: Economic indicators presage more gloom, with electricity production for industry falling 4% in October, the first time it has declined in a decade. The author uses specific percentages and numbers that relate to the economic decline China is facing, opinions from a New York University professor, a Beijing-based economist, and one huge historical piece of information to formulate his arguments. The arguments are so viable and compelling because of the information that is given. It seems well organized, with no type of bias, and plenty of rhetorical devices that in addition make the article well researched and careful written. The author uses information given by members of the China communist party. The author's informative examples and depth into the topic makes this article outstanding and a perfect example of a well-written article.

Discussion Question 2

- **Due Date:** Day 4 [Main forum]
- Review the reading *Organizing Your Research Paper* on the aXcess page.
- **Post** your response to the following: How does the author of *A Nation Apart* organize information to build his argument? Does he include any counterarguments? Why or why not? What kinds of statistics, graphs, or illustrations does the author include? In what ways do these visuals strengthen the author's arguments?

The author organizes information to build his arguments in an effective manner. As stated in the reading, *Organizing Your Research Paper*, the author follows all three steps given in the organizing information effectively section. The author planned reasonably to show the most well-built possible argument, provided a visual picture of his structure of his paper, and the author showed the common link in ideas that he presented. The author used the Logical method to organize his supporting evidence. Yes the author includes counterarguments one because this the correct way to write an essay, article or paper in general. Secondly, the author wants to

address areas that the audience will question or debate and provide an explanation for it all. The author included percentages and a picture to assist in the organization of his paper. These visuals help a great deal because it allows the audience to not only read but see and experience what the writer is trying to express. It, the visuals, makes the article read smoother and gives further comprehension on the article's topic as a whole.