

Here's a few things about the first homework:

### Questions 1-3

The “original source” for these quotes is not going to be a website. Remember that Paine, Planck, and Einstein all died before there were websites. So that's not where they originally said things.

If you find other quotes or information about Einstein or Planck or Paine, that's relevant too—that's also “context” (it becomes difficult to say though when something is “out of context” if everything counts as context).

Taking something “out of context” depends on the claim it's supporting or not supporting. Sometimes sufficient context is provided for a quote to support one claim but not another.

A quote can support a claim without being a conclusive demonstration, and without supporting it very strongly. A quote can support several conflicting claims at once. If I say “I believe in the one true God” this supports the claim that I'm Christian, and it supports the claim that I'm Muslim.

Suppose you don't know which religion I am, and you are evenly divided between: Christian, Jew, Muslim, atheist, Hindu, Buddhist. If I say “I believe in the one true God,” that supports the claim that I'm not atheist, Hindu, or Buddhist. So it's more likely that I'm a Christian or a Jew or a Muslim.

### Question 4

I was very lenient on the charts question. Some of you gave me charts that were not truncated (Y axis started at zero on your charts!) Even if I graded you as “correct” when you weren't: you still need to know what a truncated chart is and be able to answer questions about them on an exam!

### Question 5

Is AIDS a problem in Russia?

You can say “yes” because Russia has a high rate for Europe and Asia, where it is.

You can say “yes” because any amount of AIDS cases is a problem, or because the rate is growing fast in Russia.

You can say “no” because Russia has a low rate compared to many countries, especially those in Africa.

You can say “no” because Russia has bigger problems, like alcoholism or poverty.

Lots of different, good answers!