

The logo for MEGADOCUMENT features a large, bold, black italicized 'M' followed by the word 'EGADOCUMENT' in a sans-serif font. Each letter of 'EGADOCUMENT' is a different color: E (green), G (cyan), A (blue), D (purple), O (magenta), C (red), U (orange), M (yellow), E (green), and N (cyan). Below the letters are horizontal bars in the same color sequence.

Welcome! There's a lot of stuff under here, and you probably need a good place to start. Anything in blue is clickable (even if you don't have editing access). **Try it.** First of all, you should check out our **RSO website resources** if you haven't already. It contains a lot of great stuff, some of which is not in this guide. You can find my brief "Improving at Quizbowl" guide on that page, or you can just click **here**. I would recommend reading it to get an idea of what to do. After you feel somewhat acquainted with the questions and topics in quizbowl, come back to find additional resources for the *absorption* step, which are categorized with tags (as shown below). Improving at quizbowl doesn't have a clear-cut method; it's up to you to figure out how to use these resources most effectively. Good luck!

The quizbowl Megadocument uses a tagging system for your CTRL+F (Find) convenience. To search for subtags, search for labeled subtag codes. The following tags are used:

#Bitesize- The resource is divided into “bite size” portions of content.
#Endorsed- The resource is deemed very effective by an editor of the document.
#Gateway- The resource serves as an interesting introduction to a topic.
#Interactive- The resource has interactive features like quizzes or real-time actions.
#Rapid-Fire- The resource covers things very quickly (consider 0.5x viewing).

#General- The resource is recommended for studying all topics.
#Fine Arts- The resource is recommended for studying fine arts.
 Subtags: Ballet (FA1), Music (FA2), Opera (FA3), Painting (FA4), Sculpture (FA5)
#History- The resource is recommended for studying history.
 Subtags: African (H1), Asian (H2), European (H3), North American (H4), South American (H5)

- #Literature**- The resource is recommended for studying literature.
Subtags: Novel (L1), Poetry (L2), Short Stories (L3), Theater (L4)
- #Science**- The resource is recommended for studying science.
Subtags: Astronomy (S1), Biology (S2), Chemistry (S3), Math / CS (S4), Physics (S5)
- #Thought**- The resource is recommended for studying world knowledge.
Subtags: Mythology (T1), Philosophy (T2), Religion (T3), Social Science (T4)
- #World Knowledge**- The resource is recommended for studying world knowledge.
Subtags: Current Events (W1), Geography (W2), Pop Culture (W3)

Type Tags:

- #Article**- The resource is an article, such as a magazine or newspaper.
- #Book**- The resource is a book or series of books.
- #Course**- The resource is some kind of online course.
- #Encyclopedia**- The resource is a complete and comprehensive summary of the topic.
- #Homemade**- The resource was made by the same authors of this document.
- #Official**- The resource is specifically designed for quizbowl usage.
- #Podcast**- The resource is a podcast.
- #Video**- The resource is a video or series of videos.



Resources

This is a constantly updating list of quizbowl resources found by members of the team. Submit additions below. Especially helpful resources are italicized for your convenience.

- ***ACE Study Guides***

Tagged: #Endorsed, #General, #Official

- The ACE Study Guides are brief overviews of a specific subject in Scholastic Bowl (such as Civil War Battles). These overviews are designed specifically for Scholastic Bowl, so you can expect them to be especially helpful.

- ***(The) Art Story***

Tagged: #Endorsed, #Fine Arts (FA4, FA5)

- The Art Story has detailed coverage of artistic movements throughout history, as well as the painters that developed them. You can use this website to get a comprehensive and organized survey of the quizbowl art canon.

- **BazBattles**

Recommended Video: [The Battle of Stamford Bridge](#)

Tagged: #Endorsed, #History (H1, H2, H3)

- BazBattles does dense play-by-plays of historical battles and explains the context under which they were fought. There's something to be said for watching a battle play out before your eyes, and BazBattles definitely makes it entertaining.

- **Bill Wurtz**

Recommended Video: [History of Japan](#)

Tagged: #Gateway, #History (H2), #Rapid-Fire, #Video

- Bill Wurtz puts out nonsensical musical shorts 99.99% of the time, but once in a blue moon he puts out long videos.

Sometimes the long videos are even helpful for quizbowl. I'm really referring to the above video, which explains Japan in an amazing but indescribable way. Similar videos are expected to follow.

- **Canonical American and British Authors**

Tagged: #Homemade, #Literature (L1, L2, L3, L4)

- This is a list of American and British authors that come up frequently in quizbowl, as well as a couple of the most notable works. This guide is primarily targeted towards the high school game (more authors show up in college), but it should be somewhat applicable to the college game as well.

- **Canonical Philosophers**

Tagged: #Homemade, #Thought (T2)

- This is a list of philosophers that come up frequently in quizbowl. This guide is primarily targeted towards the high school game (more philosophers show up in college), but it should be somewhat applicable to the college game as well.

- **CGP Grey**

Recommended Video: [A Brief History of the Royal Family](#)

Tagged: #History (H3), #Rapid-Fire, #Video

- CGP Grey is a YouTuber who posts rapidly spoken educational videos. Usually his videos discuss important ideas and pedantic subjects, but sometimes he just does compilations or overviews of helpful topics.

- **(The) China History Podcast**

Tagged: #History (H2)

- The China History Podcast is a podcast that comprehensively covers Chinese history. The podcast is very helpful and thorough for putting all of the dynasties and events in a coherent timeline. Also, there are many more obscure events covered which should be helpful for early buzzes.

- **Classic FM**

Tagged: #Fine Arts (FA1, FA2, FA3)

- Classic FM is a website that contains several short composer biographies. It's a good starting point for deeper studies of the people involved in music. Most of the clues provided will likely be contained in this website, so it's a good place to build a music foundation.

- **CliffsNotes**

Tagged: #Literature (L1, L2, L3, L4)

- CliffsNotes offers brief summaries of books, as well as analyses and specific events. It also offers study help and quiz questions. CliffsNotes is similar to SparkNotes, but shorter.

- **Coursera**

Tagged: #Course, #General, #Video, #Interactive

- Coursera is a website with free certified online courses. If you are interested in a topic, you may want to take courses on that subject. Most courses are college-level and content-intensive; be prepared.
- **Crash Course**
Recommended Video: [The Mughal Empire and Historical Reputation](#)
Tagged: #Course, #Gateway, #General, #Rapid-Fire, #Video
 - Crash Course is a large YouTube channel with many topics. Its overabundance in schools has only led to more channel growth into more and more topics. The science lessons are especially useful, considering that the amount of complete science resources is lacking. This resource is great for killing time really quickly (five episodes should last about an hour).
- **ESPN**
Tagged: #Article, #Bitesize, #World Knowledge (W3)
 - ESPN is a very thorough website about everything sports. From athletes to scores to teams, it's all there. Even though it has a questionable interface (making it hard to sort through), it definitely will help you with the modern events of sports. For the history of sports, you might want to try **30 For 30**, a documentary series that they produce.
- **Extra Credits/Extra History**
Recommended Video: [The Sengoku Jidai: Battle of Okehazama](#)
Tagged: #Endorsed, #History (H1, H2, H3, H4, H5), #Literature (L1, L3), #Video, #World Knowledge (W3)
 - Extra History is an animated series that gives narrative histories of various events. Because some of the series have >5 videos, you can expect to build a large base of knowledge around some lesser-known subjects. Its parent channel Extra Credits also offers a large library of videos about video games, and they also make literature content under the title "So You Haven't Read...".
- **Famous Operas**
Tagged: #Endorsed, #Fine Arts (FA3), #Homemade
 - Famous Operas is a list of the operas that come up most frequently in quizbowl with some basic information about each. This guide is more about telling you what to study and will not function super well as a standalone guide.
- **Feature History**
Recommended Video: [Chechen Wars \(1/2\)](#)
Tagged: #History (H1, H2, H3, H4, H5), #Video
 - Feature History is a snarky, British channel that gives overviews of important wars and revolutions. The image-tracing animation style gives the videos a unique charm.
- **(The) FreQuincy List**
Tagged: #Bitesize, #General, #Homemade, #Official

- The FreQuincy List is our very own experimental resource! It is designed to be an easy-to-use, lazy method of practice. It seeks to serve as a rough frequency list for things in Quinterest. Feedback is appreciated.
- **Futurism**
Tagged: #Article, #Current Events (CE2, CE3), #Gateway, #Science (S1, S2, S3, S4, S5)
 - Futurism puts out an infographic every day about events in STEM around the world. **This Week in Science** and **This Week in Tech** are especially helpful for current event questions related to science.
- **Godchecker**
Tagged: #Bitesize, #Encyclopedia, #Thought (T1)
 - Godchecker is a website that compiles the vast majority of deities covered in quizbowl. It has Pokedex-style entries about each deity and organizes them by pantheon/region. This is a good place to go if you want to fill gaps in your mythology knowledge, especially if you have specific deities/pantheons in mind.
- **Halloween Presentation**
Tagged: #Endorsed, #Fine Arts (FA4), #Gateway, #Homemade, #Literature (L3)
 - This is a presentation I (Kevin) made for the club in October 2021 that covers spooky works of art and literature throughout history. It also has some short story readings attached!
- **Hardcore History**
Tagged: #Endorsed, #Gateway, #History (H1, H2, H3, H4, H5), #Podcast
 - Hardcore History is a longform podcast that covers history in an entertaining and speculative way. The creator (Dan Carlin) brings epic storytelling to history in sagas spanning many hours. This series is a great way to get fully immersed in history; perfect for those long road trips or car rides. The name tells you exactly what it is- adjust accordingly.
- **Highbrow**
Tagged: #Bitesize, #Course, #Gateway, #General
 - Highbrow is a bite-sized email course that sends you daily emails about a particular topic of your choice. Incorporating this into your routine may help you. Highbrow occasionally adds more topics.
- **HistoryMarche**
Recommended Video: [Battle of Ain Jalut](#)
Tagged: #History (H1, H2, H3, H4, H5), #Video
 - Similar to BazBattles, HistoryMarche shows play-by-plays of important battles throughout history. They have a much faster rate of content production, so if you can't find something on BazBattles, you might be able to find it here.
- **History of Rome**
Tagged: #History (H1, H2, H3), #Podcast

- History of Rome by Mike Duncan is what it sounds like: a really long podcast history of Rome with very excellent research. You can find it wherever you get your podcasts.
- **In a Nutshell (Kurzgesagt)**
 Recommended Video: [The Immune System Explained](#)
 Tagged: #Bitesize, #Gateway, #Science (S1, S2, S3), #Video
 - In a Nutshell is a YouTube channel that features various science topics. The videos have some of the best animations on YouTube. In recent months they have begun to create history videos as well as science videos; however, they take a very long time to put out content.
- **Jabzy**
 Recommended Video: [The Mithridatic Wars](#)
 Tagged: #Bitesize, #Gateway, #History (H1, H2, H3, H4, H5), #Rapid-Fire, #Video
 - Jabzy is a YouTube channel that makes short history videos that are potentially hand-drawn. It goes over specific events in history shortly, but in fairly good detail. This channel isn't really my favorite, but I (Kevin) do appreciate the work put into it and the scope that it provides.
- **(The) Jaguar Stones**
 Tagged: #Book, #Gateway, #Thought (T1)
 - The Jaguar Stones series is the Percy Jackson equivalent for the Mayans. While obscure, Mayan myth tends to come up, although the scope that the book provides is not really necessary.
- **Khan Academy**
 Tagged: #Course, #Endorsed, #General, #Interactive, #Video
 - Khan Academy is a great resource for just about any topic, but it is especially useful for practicing computation. Each separate video is simple and light, but multiple videos combine to form an in-depth coverage of the subject.
- **Kings and Generals**
 Recommended Video: [Six-Day War](#)
 Tagged: #History (H1, H2, H3, H4, H5), #Video
 - Kings and Generals does high-level and detailed overviews of world military history. The videos are long and dense but rewarding. The channel is also pretty high-budget, which allows them to show cool animated sequences on the battlefield.
- **LitCharts**
 Tagged: #Endorsed, #Encyclopedia, #General, #Literature (L1, L2, L3, L4)
 - LitCharts is a site created by the makers of SparkNotes that creates book summaries that focus more on thematic elements of books (instead of just content). The site creates really high-quality stuff, although the focus on themes is honestly unlikely to help you more in a quizbowl setting. Nevertheless, it's still a great resource!
- **MinutePhysics**

Recommended Video: [Schrödinger's Cat](#)

Tagged: #Bitesize, #Gateway, #Science (S5), #Video

- MinutePhysics is a YouTube channel that gives small doses of physics topics in short videos. Its partner channel **MinuteEarth** is also helpful for other forms of science.

- **(The) Nerdwriter**

Recommended Video: [Las Meninas](#)

Tagged: #Fine Arts (FA4, FA5), #Literature (L2), #Video

- The Nerdwriter is a YouTube channel that looks very closely at works of art. It features deep analysis of a few major works that come up in quizbowl, though its scope is disappointingly small. Still, the amount of videos should grow larger (albeit slowly) in the future.

- **Overly Sarcastic Productions**

Recommended Video: [Beowulf](#)

Tagged: #History (H3), #Literature (L1, L2, L3, L4), #Thought (T1), #Video

- OSP is a YouTube channel that does history, literature, and mythology videos. It has information for long books and epics that you might not normally read (i.e. *Journey to the West*). The history videos ("Blue") are useful, but it's suggested you watch the literature ("Red") videos, as those videos are more fast paced and contain a denser population of clues.

- **PBS Space Time**

Recommended Video: [Why the Universe Needs Dark Matter](#)

Tagged: #Science (S1, S5), #Video

- PBS Space Time is a video that takes high-level physics concepts and presents them to a mass audience without dumbing them down too much. These videos can be tough to digest, but they are both fascinating and contain some high-level clues.

- **(The) Podcast History of Our World**

Tagged: #History (H1, H2, H3, H4, H5), #Podcast

- The Podcast History of Our World gives a brief look at various notable events and groups of people in history, from the Mauryas to the Punic Wars. The title is no joke- it is actually attempting to chronicle the entire annals of history in order: from the Big Bang to the modern era. It's a bit of an in-between podcast, not too shallow or deep concerning depth. It's also great for trips to or from school and similar situations- almost exactly the right length.

- **Religion Facts**

Tagged: #Encyclopedia, #Thought (T3)

- Religion Facts is a comprehensive database of aspects of the various world religions. The articles are not exactly thrilling, but they do give you a nice foundation for studying religion. One helpful thing on this website is **a large religion chart**.

- **Rick Riordan**

Tagged: #Book, #Endorsed, #Gateway, #Thought (T1)

- Rick Riordan writes books about Greek, Roman, Egyptian, and Norse myths. His books are immersive and the best resource for knowledge of the mythological and the divine. If you have reading time on your hands, be sure to read most of the series. If not, check out his lesser-known book of myths: **Percy Jackson's Greek Gods**. Be warned that most people in quizbowl have probably already read his books.

- **(The) School of Life**

Recommended Video: [Immanuel Kant](#)

Tagged: #Fine Arts (FA4), #Endorsed, #Gateway, #Literature (L1), #Philosophy (P1, P2), #Video

- The School of Life is a YouTube channel that covers many of the people mentioned in quizbowl. Their videos often discuss the meaning of a particular person's work, but the videos are still very helpful. Artists and authors are occasionally covered.

- **SciShow**

Recommended Video: [3 New Discoveries in Space](#)

Tagged: #Bitesize, #Current Events, (CE1, CE2), #Science (S1, S2, S3, S4, S5), #Video

- SciShow is a YouTube channel that mainly covers questions and news about science. The sheer quantity of videos makes them an ideal place to get a quick dose of general science knowledge.

- **Shmoop**

Tagged: #Endorsed, #Encyclopedia, #Literature (L1, L2, L3, L4)

- Shmoop is a book summaries website specifically targeted towards skeptical readers. It can be a great way to get into a book that seems totally opaque, or get yourself to learn about literature when you don't really feel like it.

- **Short Generator**

Tagged: #Bitesize, #Homemade, #Literature (L2, L3)

- Short Generator is a homemade frequency list of poems and short stories that you can read right away. It contains a link to every work for easy reading. This is also the resource that is used for the "What Should I Read?" feature on the quizbowl website.

- **Socratica**

Tagged: #Gateway, #Science (S4), #Video

Recommended Video: [Abstract Algebra: The Definition of a Ring](#)

- Socratica is a YouTube channel that provides great information on math and computer science. They manage to present high-level concepts in a way that is surprisingly accessible, and their hosts are usually very charismatic.

- **SparkNotes**

Tagged: #Endorsed, #Encyclopedia, #General, #Literature (L1, L2, L3, L4)

- SparkNotes is a good starting place for diving into a book. It offers comprehensive plot summaries, which get as specific as

chapter-by-chapter events. It also has context and analysis, which may be helpful for some clues. Even just reading one SparkNotes summary can be helpful during matches. SparkNotes also has **other subjects** (such as math, science, and others), although their quality is debatable.

- **Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy**

Tagged: #Encyclopedia, #Thought (T2)

- Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy gives a thorough look into the world of thought. While dense, studying it can be time well spent.

- **Thug Notes**

Recommended Video: [Slaughterhouse Five](#)

Tagged: #Bitesize, #Endorsed, #Gateway, #Literature (L1, L2, L\$), #Rapid-Fire, #Video

- Thug Notes is a YouTube channel that offers book summaries and analyses. This resource is great for starting research on a particular book. It is more helpful than it appears; Thug Notes can usually answer the last three clues about a book. Use it for the times when you only have a few minutes to spare.

- **Tom Richey**

Recommended Video: [Introduction to John Calvin's Reformed Theology](#)

Tagged: #Endorsed, #History (H3, H4), #Video

- Tom Richey is an APEUH and APUSH teacher that looks suspiciously like Matt Damon. He makes YouTube videos of his lessons sometimes- they aren't anything unusual, just solid history lessons to catch up with.

- **Vi Hart**

Recommended Video: [What was up with Pythagoras?](#)

Tagged: #Rapid-Fire, #Science (S4), #Video

- Vi Hart is a recreational YouTuber who makes videos about interesting or unusual concepts about the nature of patterns. This YouTube channel will help you learn about various mathematicians and math topics through unorthodox methods that possibly involve doodles and snakes. It is good for fans of the subject and non-fans alike.

- **Vox Sentences**

Tagged: #Article, #Bitesize, #Current Events (CE1, CE2, CE3), #Endorsed

- Vox Sentences is an email subscription list that sends you news every weekday. It has three main stories and a few other blurbs. The stories are concise; by reading them you should be up to date on most of the events of the week.

- **Vsauce**

Recommended Video: [How Hot Can It Get?](#)

Tagged: #Gateway, #General, #Video

- Vsauce is a YouTube channel that provides many episodes that touch a variety of topics. By watching enough of them, it is possible to gain a substantial knowledge base in various areas.

- **(The) Wall Street Journal**

Tagged: #Article, #Current Events (CE1, CE2, CE3)

- The Wall Street Journal puts out a patchwork of news stories on their homepage every day that can be very helpful for scanning the day's news stories. Additionally, reading newspapers like The Wall Street Journal will help when it comes to current events.

- **World History Hub**

Tagged: #Endorsed, #History (H1, H2, H3), #Homemade

- World History Hub contains a few resources I (Kevin) made in high school about world history, mostly military history. These guides are more detail-oriented and probably contain enough information for you to get a good buzz or two. I'm not super proud of these ones, but they still contain a lot of interesting information. These guides also come with companion packets for practice.

- **World Lit Hub**

Tagged: #Endorsed, #Homemade, #Literature (L1, L2, L3, L4)

- World Lit Hub provides links to literature guides covering several different regions of the world. These guides are less about listing clues that will get you good buzzes and more about telling you what to study. Each guide comes with a "companion packet" featuring tossup + bonus questions related to the material, so you can ask a friend to test your knowledge after completion.

- **Wikipedia** and **Simple Wikipedia**

Tagged: #Encyclopedia, #Endorsed, #General

- These Wikis are both comprehensive. Both Wikipedias are incredibly helpful if you just want to dive into a topic, with or without much prior knowledge. If you want to practice clicking on links more effectively, check out [this cool game](#).

- **Wolfram MathWorld**

Tagged: #Encyclopedia, #Science (S4)

- Wolfram MathWorld is a comprehensive encyclopedia on all things math. Use it to find more information about a particular topic that has come up, or just dive in to see what you can find. It is also the cousin of the more famous **Wolfram Alpha** (which is itself the cousin of the more famous Siri).



Feedback

SUGGESTION BOX



TYPO BOX