

Methods in Historical Research and Exposition:

A Process-Based Approach to World History



LECTURE VIII: Remember the Ladies

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December 2, 2009

Peking University

Note: Vocabulary Definitions



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intrepid 
fearless; bold.
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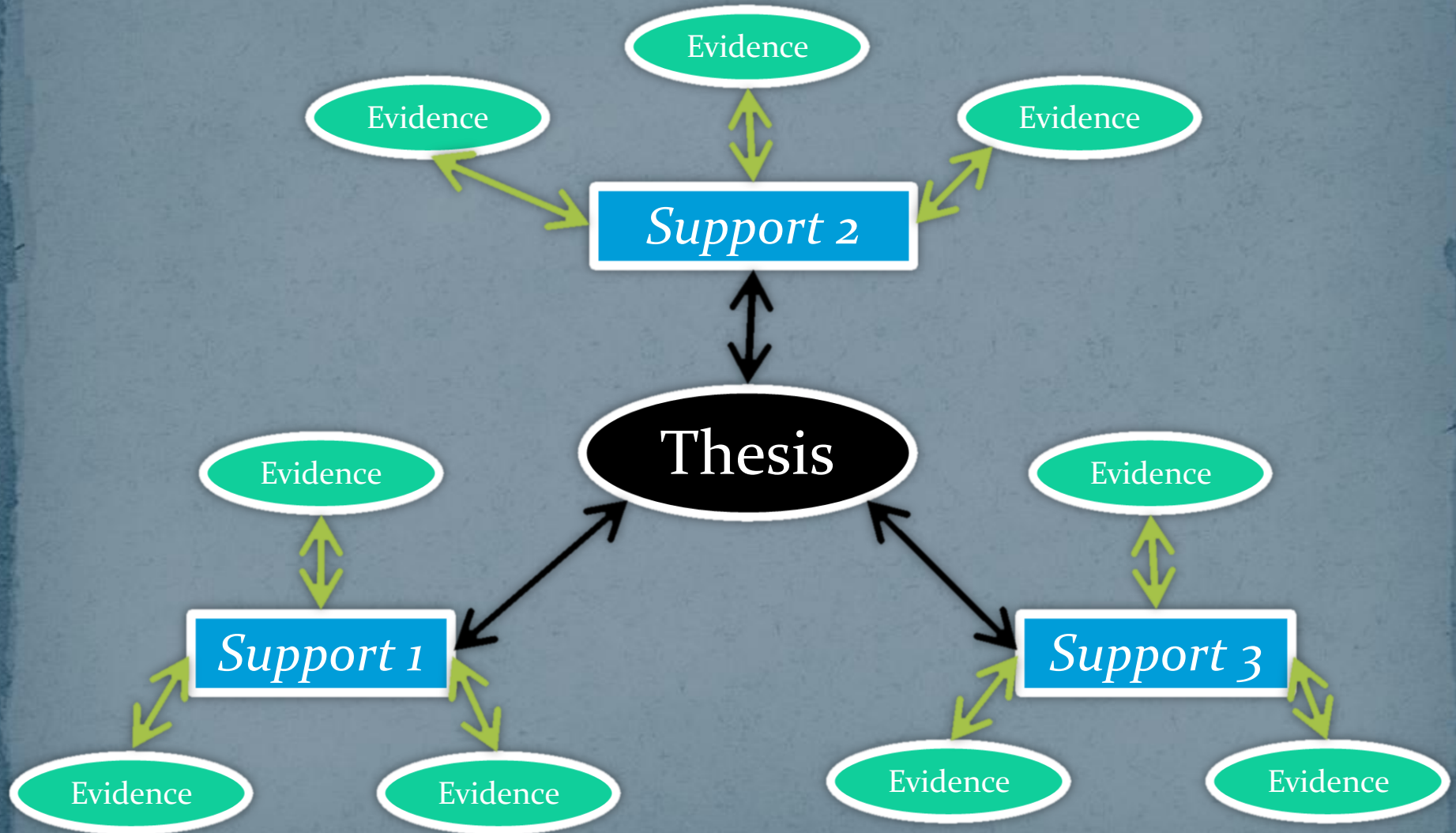
Featured Mathematics Terms

» adjacent angle	» monomial
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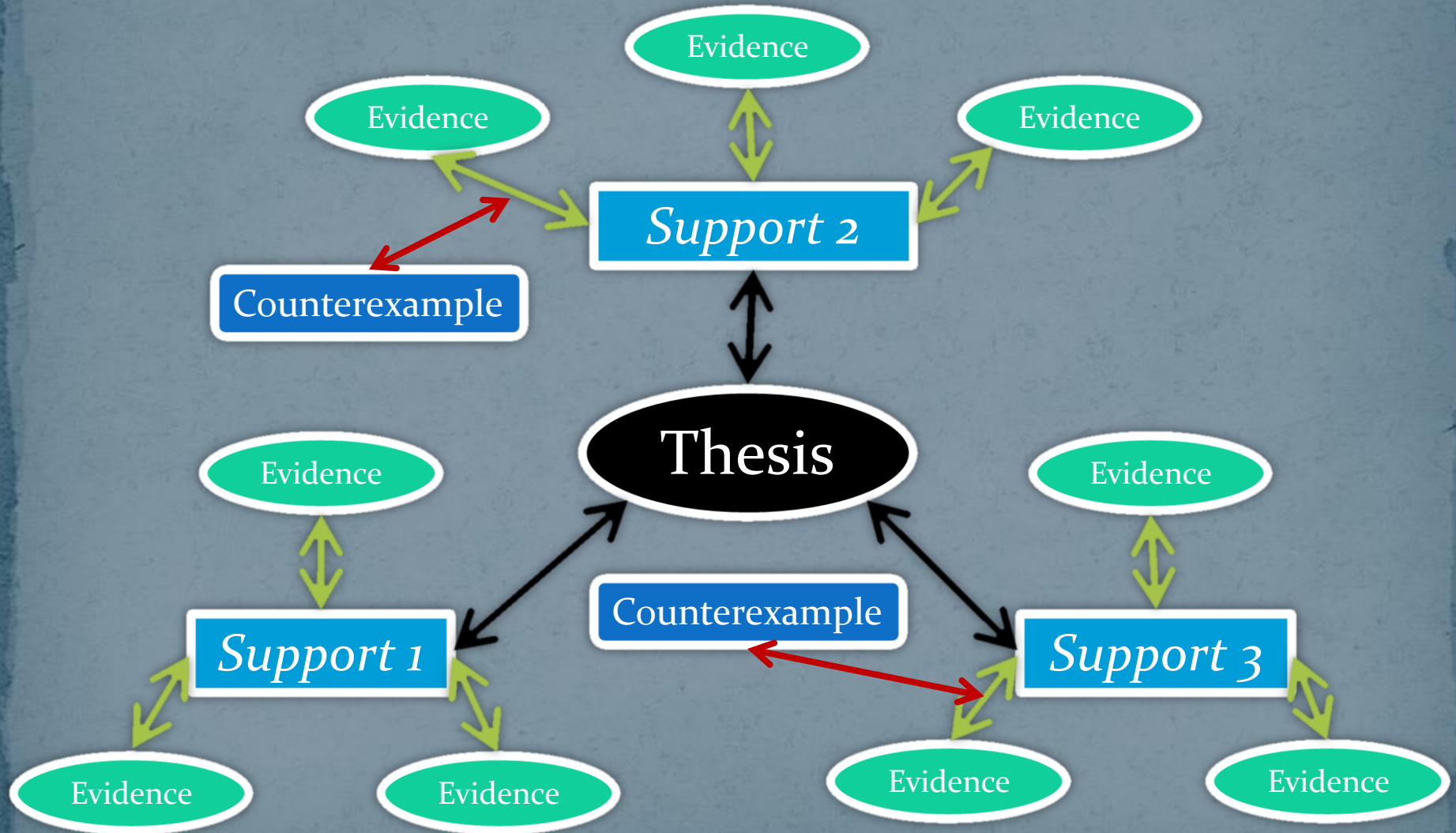
Response Paper VI

Concerns?

Graphical Outlining: Basic Structure

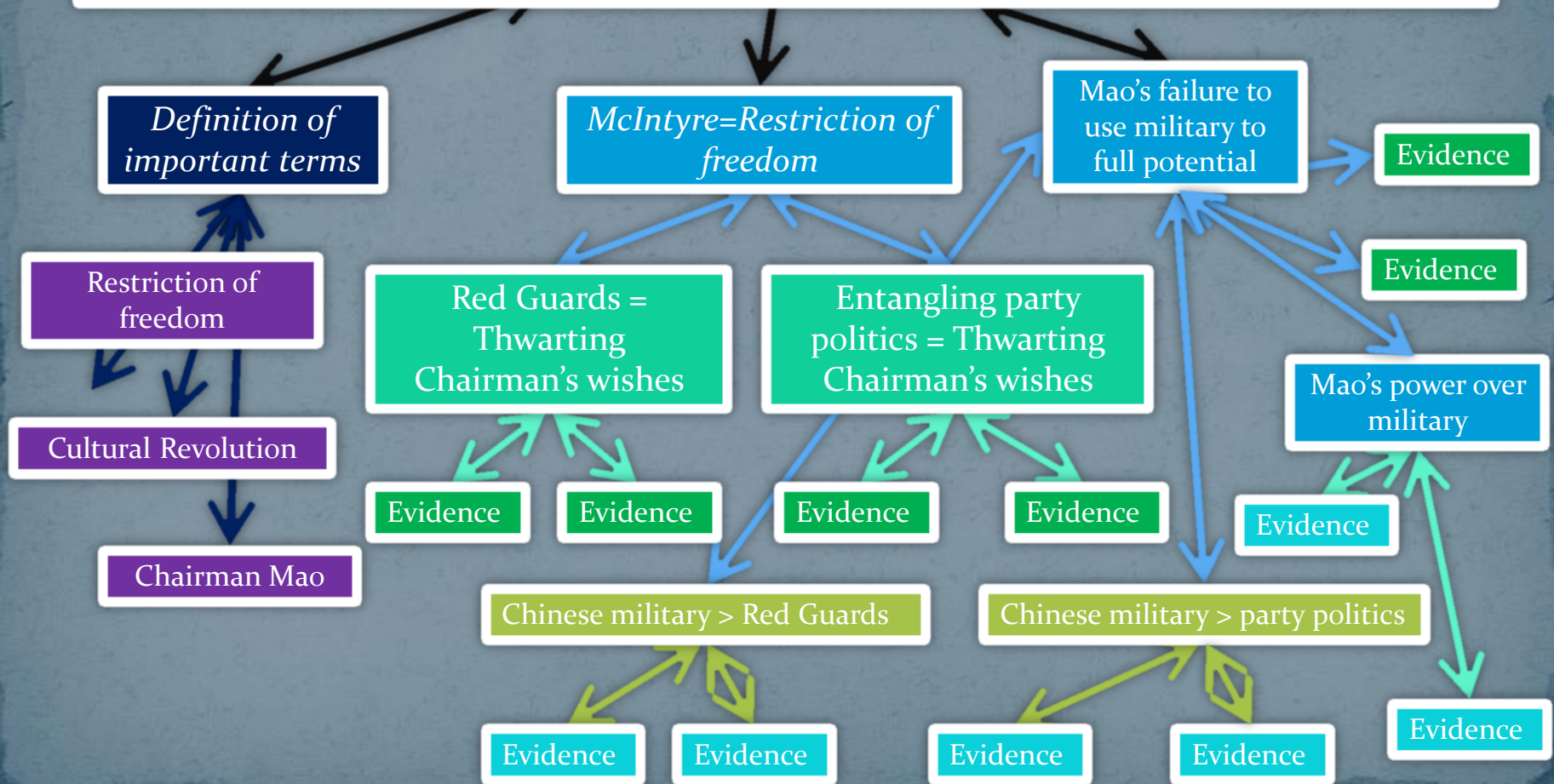


Graphical Outlining: Counterarguments



Graphical Outlining: Paper VI

Thesis: In his discussion of Mao's management of the Cultural Revolution, McIntyre applies a Pomperian restriction of freedom to the account by implying that the decentralized activities of the Red Guards and the entangling party politics of the time thwarted rather than reflected the Chairman's wishes. This viewpoint, however, ignores Mao's influence over the Chinese military, a power whose potential for executing change would have allowed the Chairman to overcome these opposing forces had he applied it differently .

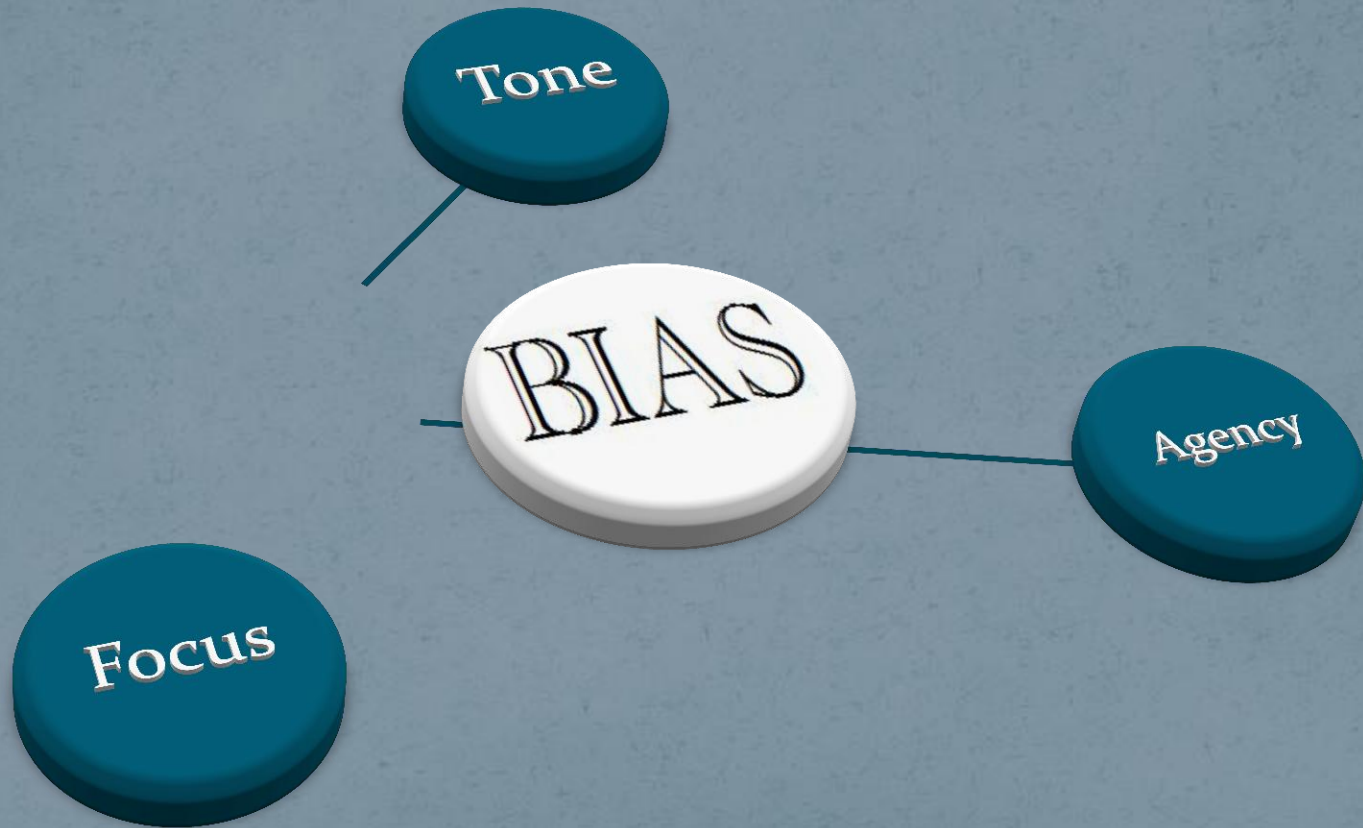


Response Paper VI

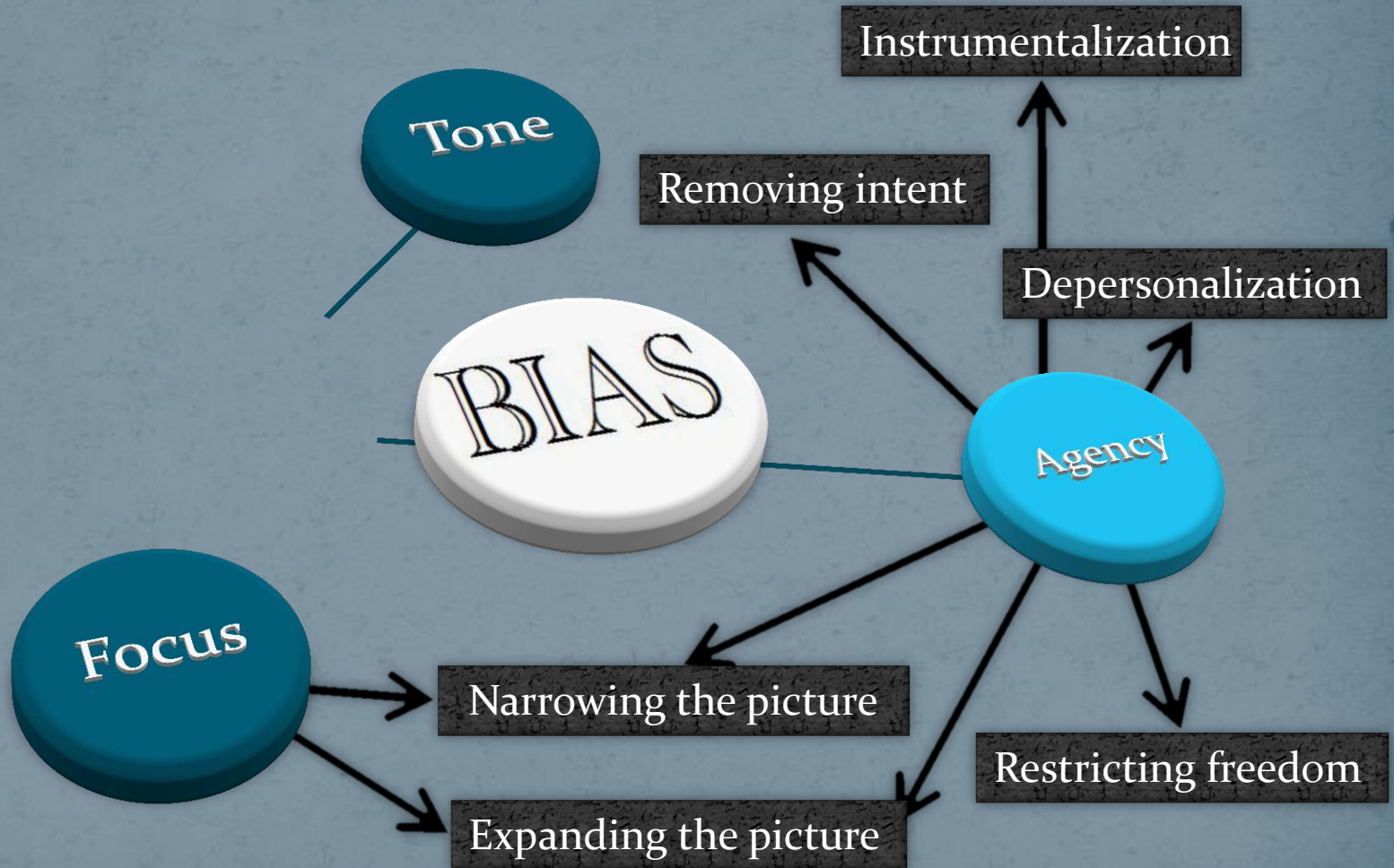
Lecture VIII: Remember the Ladies

Goal: To examine when and how we might emphasize or ignore the social categories to which the subjects of our historical research belong

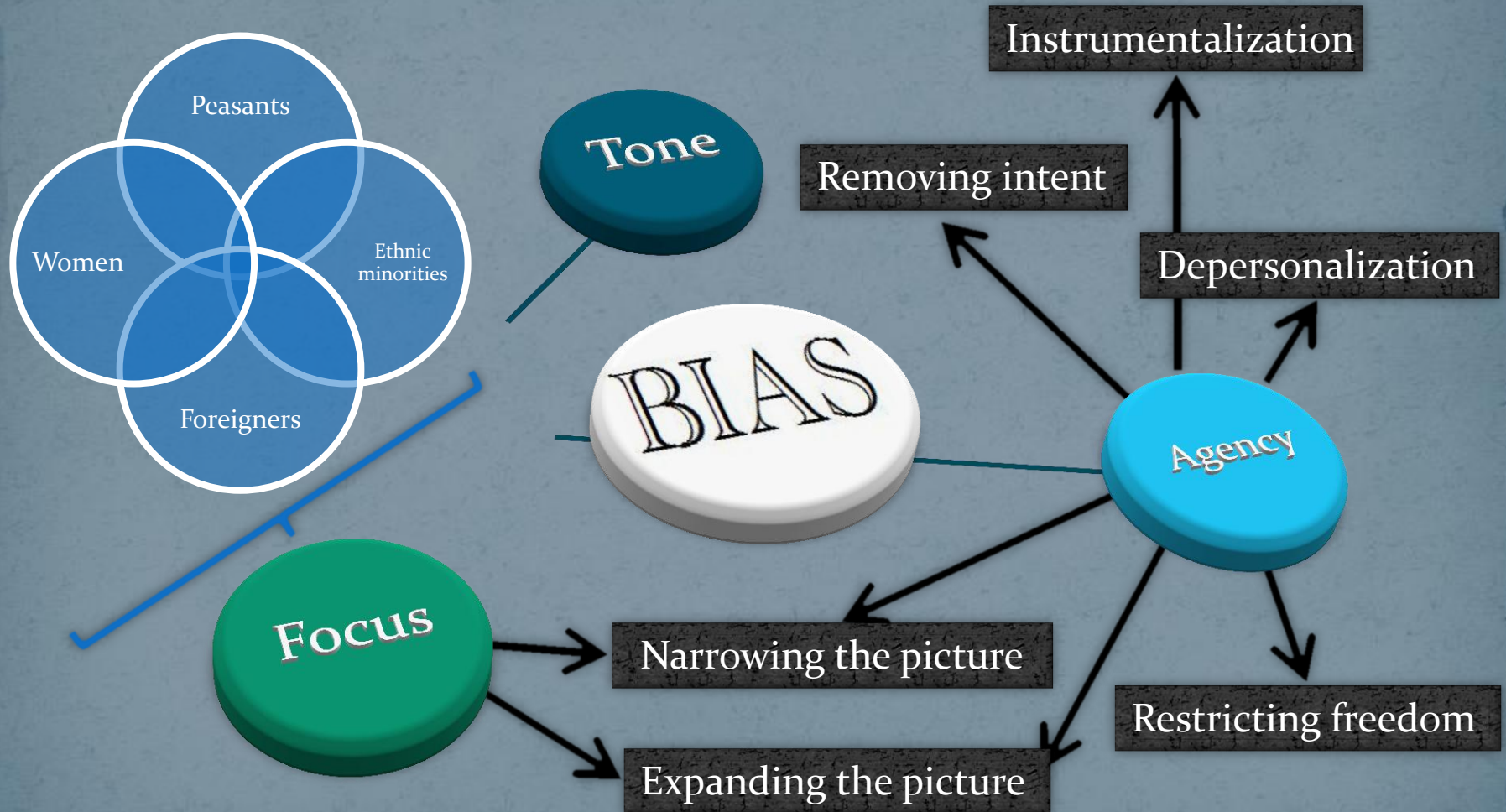
History: A Form of Bias



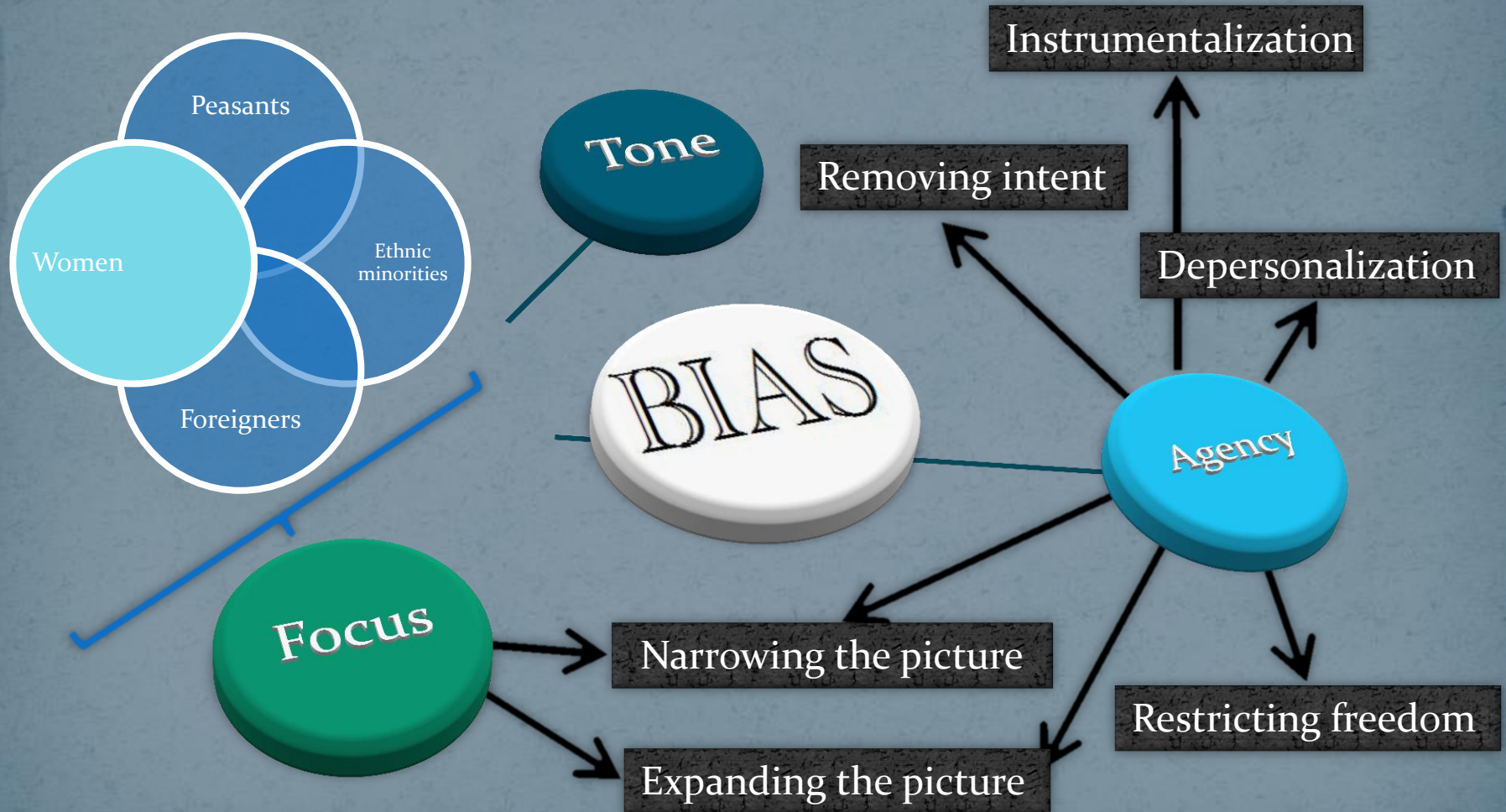
History: A Form of Bias



History: A Form of Bias



History: A Form of Bias



What is sex?

What is gender?

What is a woman?

What is a man?

Feminism

An intellectual commitment and a political movement

Objective: Justice for women and the end of sexism in all forms

Disagreements: What does sexism consist in? What exactly ought to be done about sexism? What does it mean to be a woman or a man? What social and political implications does or should gender have?

Important topics for feminist theory and politics include:

human rights

globalization

race and racism

sexuality

the family

the self

reproduction

the body

disability

science

popular culture

class and work

sex work

Writing Assessment

What might it mean to rewrite history from a woman's or a feminist's point of view? How might history written by women look different from history written by men?

Feminist History

- **Inclusion** of issues traditionally considered to “concern” women, such as raising children, women’s education, marriage, housework, and sexuality

Example: A paper comparing childrearing practices in early Athens and Sparta

- **Reinterpretation** of historical phenomena through a perspective that recognizes the complexity of sex and gender relations in society

Example: A lecture analyzing the popular perception of female revolutionaries in first-century Vietnamese society

An Example of Feminist Reinterpretation in Anthropology: The Gelada Baboon



Response Paper VII

Find a secondary source that answers a historical question you find interesting. **This topic is open to anything but Chinese history.**

1. Define the historical question addressed by the secondary source and briefly explain how the source answers it.
2. Drawing from a minimum of four additional sources (at least two of which must be primary sources), evaluate the secondary source's answer from a feminist perspective.

Note: Both the definition and criticism of your secondary source's answer must be encapsulated within a well-defined central thesis statement that constitutes the motivation of your paper.

A draft of at **least 1000 words is due by 11 P.M. next Wednesday (December 9)** and your **final paper of 1500-1700 words due by class time in two Wednesdays (December 16).**