

## **The Break-up**

Developed by Jamee Pritchett Webb

This activity brought so much energy and excitement to my AP Langers today, as I introduced the #synthesis prompt to them. I used Freitas' high school drama/breakup prompt as the inspiration for engaging the entire class by creating thirty-three sources and a situation for students to develop advice for John. Students had six random sources and a copy of the situation for ten minutes as they developed their initial advice. Then they partnered with a peer where they had up to twelve sources (maybe some overlap). Then four became eight with the possibility of all thirty-three sources. Then we merged as a class. There were sixteen of nineteen present today, so numbers worked out perfectly. It was hilarious, but the critical thinking skills and lines of reasoning were solid! Everyone was engaged and I was even called a genius! Later they were mad when I told them I made the whole thing up! I was told I need a story of what actually happened by Tuesday when we return to school so they can have some closure! LOL.

## Synthesis Activity: The Break-up

**Scenario:** John and Bebe have been dating for three months exactly. They broke up the weekend before Valentine’s Day, which was on Tuesday. He is questioning the decision and considering what to do. Should he give her the gifts he purchased, have a long talk about all the rumors, and consider trying again? He really likes her and thought they connected really well, but there are just so many rumors...

John needs YOUR advice. Be specific, and be sure to use evidence from the provided sources.

### List of Characters:

John—in a relationship with BeBe

Tay—John’s ex

Sam—BeBe’s ex

GiGi—random girl

Jen—popular girl at another district school

Bo—John’s cousin who attends another district school

<b>Source 1</b>	Instagram post by Sam of Bebe with him with the caption “Just a little Netflix with my BaeBae” posted February 10th
<b>Source 2</b>	TikTok of a huddle and chant featuring John with a group of friends—one of whom is his ex-girlfriend Tay—after February 10th’s basketball victory
<b>Source 3</b>	Note in John’s locker from unidentified source telling him how much she has liked him since freshman year and will reveal who she is by the end of the month
<b>Source 4</b>	BeBe is John’s first girlfriend this school year.
<b>Source 5</b>	Spotify playlist of sappy, love songs dedicated to John from BeBe—last updated on February 11th
<b>Source 6</b>	Group text among four, unidentified girls who all have a crush on John discussing what BeBe was saying on the phone in the restroom during lunch on February 10th
<b>Source 7</b>	Overheard conversation between BeBe and her bestie about how she had the best weekend...
<b>Source 8</b>	Dinner reservation under John’s name for Tuesday, February 14th, 7:00 p.m. at Webb’s Custom Kitchen
<b>Source 9</b>	Cash App proof that the number in John’s phone is Jen’s and not his cousin Bo’s
<b>Source 10</b>	John’s Christmas wishlist: New Air Force Ones, case of Dr. Pepper, airpods, Apple Watch, basketball gear, and iTunes gift cards

<b>Source 11</b>	BeBe has dated four different guys this school year.
<b>Source 12</b>	SnapMap of Tay at John's house on February 10th at 10:00 p.m.
<b>Source 13</b>	Three missed FaceTime calls to John from BeBe on February 13th
<b>Source 14</b>	Picture of a phone with a BeReal post of BeBe standing in front of Sam's car the morning of February 9th
<b>Source 15</b>	Receipt for a six-pack of Cheerwine, conversation hearts, and a large heart-shaped box of Russell Stover's chocolates--dated February 9th
<b>Source 16</b>	Find my... revealing that Tay was at Waffle House at 10:15 p.m. February 10th
<b>Source 17</b>	DM thread between John and Jen which started on February 2nd but seemed to fizzle on February 8th
<b>Source 18</b>	Screenshot of GiGi's Snapchat story of John leaving school alone on February 14th with the caption "Lonely and Devastated on TODAY of ALL days!"
<b>Source 19</b>	BeBe liked eight of Sam's Instagram posts since February 7th
<b>Source 20</b>	BeBe stopped following John on Instagram the morning of February 15th
<b>Source 21</b>	Snap Score of Tay's profile increasing over the weekend (but no connection to John)
<b>Source 22</b>	Instagram DMs to check activity of Sam which was inactive from 6:00-11:30 on February 10th
<b>Source 23</b>	Activity on TikTok was silent for John between February 11-13, whereas he typically spends no less than two hours on there daily
<b>Source 24</b>	Movie ticket stub to see 25th Anniversary <i>Titanic</i> in 3D from February 9th fell out of BeBe's purse in the hallway
<b>Source 25</b>	Sam blended with BeBe on Spotify, beginning in mid-November.
<b>Source 26</b>	Blended song Stevie Wonder's "I Just Called to Say I Love You" between Sam and BeBe shared with John on February 7th
<b>Source 27</b>	TikTok of text exchange between John and BeBe labeled "Watch my girlfriend fall out of love with me!" posted February 14th just before midnight
<b>Source 28</b>	Waffle House receipt found in school parking lot for two grilled cheese sandwiches, two orders of smothered and covered hashbrowns, and two Dr. Peppers, dated February 11th
<b>Source 29</b>	Part of a sappy Valentine's Day card, seemingly to John from BeBe--found

	in his driveway on February 15th
<b>Source 30</b>	BeBe “broke blend” with Sam on the evening of February 13th
<b>Source 31</b>	BeBe reposted TikTok that said “POV: your simping so much over him but he doesn’t like you back” on February 15th
<b>Source 32</b>	Jen begins a soft launch on February 6th
<b>Source 33</b>	BeBe posted “Traitor” by Olivia Rodrigo on February 11th