

## Sam Cota My Family Resources are Everywhere in re Argentina's Gold & Oranges

Sources for your study for your standardized tests include every resource around you, like family members, friends, books, artifacts, the internet, teachers. Not only that, this research will help you to add to and sharpen up your Family Canon.

1) Select anything you want and/or need to know from your family stories, or from anything else that comes up as you study.

My father went to Argentina to meet our family there. His grandfather's brother had gone there to prospect for gold during an Argentinian gold rush. I never knew about. Here is a picture of a picture the family had there in an album of my grand-uncle. I don't know which side he is on.



2) Research it using all sources you can.

Julius Popper and the Coins of the Argentine Gold Rush

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### Crisis in Argentina sparks new gold rush

### Gold Rush Expeditions: We Find 'Em, You Mine 'Em

*Keep track of your studies. Do so in any way you wish, but do it. You'll be glad.*

3) Return to the test-question data banks and see what jewels you can find.

I just wrote this one myself, but I will find many more whether in the local, state or international tests.

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#### Questions on Economics

Natural Resources are Distributed Unevenly Across the Globe:

What does gold look like in the ground? Describe the following image using terms from the USGS survey of 1957: [by alpl]



Amazinggeology.blogspot.com

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4) Keep going all around the world, even if it is just that you want to travel there.

I found out that my great-uncle ended up owning miles of orange groves. I will have to visit to find out more. I don't know if they own any groves today, but here is a picture my father took of one of their orange trees. He ate one of the oranges, I think, but I don't know exactly who owned the tree:



5) Write more questions if they are missing, or just for your amusement and edification.

I made up this question about the gold and the orange trees:

**Essay Question:**

Many family histories include mention of owning amazing amounts of land...

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“Sam’s Argentinian part of his family owned “miles of orange groves in Argentina.” Annie’s archives say family “once owned most of Cape Anne,” and all of the land the Nantucket Airport sits on now.” Neither Sam or Amy had any knowledge of any such thing being in the family, and grew up with no inherited wealth, both families living only on the salaries of the parents. But is it possible that any of this could be true? How would one go about finding out? What could be going on?

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**To my amusement and edification, I I started to wonder what my cousins in Argentina knew about gold and orange groves that I do not. I learned that there was one international test we could both take, called PISA. Maybe they do better on questions about that and I do better on questions about building (if they don’t have builders in their family (except us, hahaha!).**

**On PiSA, I first saw this part called You, Your Family and Your Home, on this Student Common Part Questionnaire in English. (I didn’t see it in Portuguese or Spanish.)**

**I found out PISA wanted to know a lot about what we all thought about science, and if we thought about what should happen in science to save the future, it seems to me. It is a really long and pretty interesting survey that they don’t grade you on. We could all do it there and here, and see what we were learning more of and in what ways.**

**But the most important thing was that I also found out that I could get tons of facts about them right here if I was allowed to see that they said. (We could do screenshots for each other.) Here’s some:**

## You, Your Family, and Your Home

### Which of these categories best describes your race?

*(Please select one or more responses.)*

White

Black or African American

Asian

American Indian or Alaska Native

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

### Which best describes you?

*(Please select one response.)*

I am Hispanic or Latino

I am not Hispanic or Latino

### What is the highest level of schooling (not including college) completed by your mother?

If you are not sure which circle to choose, please ask the test administrator for help.

*(Please select one response.)*

She completed grade 12 (high school diploma or GED).

She completed grade 9.

She completed grade 6.

She did not complete grade 6.

### Does your mother have any of the following degrees, certificates, or diplomas?

If you are not sure how to answer this question, please ask the test administrator for help.

*(Please select one response in each row.)*

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	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Master's, doctoral, or professional degree such as medicine or law</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Bachelor's degree (4-year college degree)</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Associate's degree (2-year degree from a community college)</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Vocational or technical certificate/diploma after high school (such as cosmetology or auto mechanics)</b>		

**Which of the following are in your home?**

**See below**

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**Yes**

**No**

**A desk to study at**

**A room of your own**

**A quiet place to study**

**A computer you can use for school work**

**Educational software**

**A link to the Internet**

**Classic literature (e.g., Shakespeare)**

**Books of poetry**

**Works of art (e.g., paintings)**

**Books to help with your school work**

**Technical reference books or manuals**

**A dictionary**

**Books on art, music, or design**

**A guest room**

**A high-speed Internet connection**

**A musical instrument**

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**How many of these are there at your home?**

*(Please select one response in each row.)*

	None	One	Two	Three or more
Televisions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cars	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bathrooms with a bathtub or shower	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cell phones with Internet access (e.g., smartphones)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Computers (desktop computer, portable laptop, or notebook)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tablet computers (e.g., iPad®, Samsung Galaxy®)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
E-book readers (e.g., Kindle™, Nook)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Musical instruments (e.g., guitar, piano)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**How many books are there in your home?**

There are usually about 15 books per foot of shelving. Do not include magazines, newspapers, or your schoolbooks.

*(Please select one response.)*

- 0-10 books
- 11-25 books
- 26-100 books
- 101-200 books
- 201-500 books
- More than 500 books



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**To what extent do you disagree or agree with the following statements about yourself?**

*(Please select one response in each row.)*

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
I prefer working as part of a team to working alone.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am a good listener.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I enjoy seeing my classmates succeed.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I take into account what others are interested in.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I find that teams make better decisions than individuals.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I enjoy considering different perspectives.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I find that teamwork raises my own efficiency.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I enjoy cooperating with peers.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**To what extent are you interested in the following science topics?**

*(Please select one response in each row.)*

	Not interested	Hardly interested	Interested	Highly interested	I don't know what this is
Biosphere (e.g., ecosystem services, sustainability)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Motion and forces (e.g., velocity, friction, magnetic and gravitational forces)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Energy and its transformation (e.g., conservation, chemical reactions)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The universe and its history	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How science can help us prevent disease	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**How easy do you think it would be for you to perform the following tasks on your own?**

*(Please select one response in each row.)*

	I could do this easily	I could do this with a bit of effort	I would struggle to do this on my own	I couldn't do this
Recognize the science question that underlies a newspaper report on a health issue.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Explain why earthquakes occur more frequently in some areas than in others.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Describe the role of antibiotics in the treatment of disease.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Identify the science question associated with the disposal of garbage.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Predict how changes to an environment will affect the survival of certain species.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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**Interpret the scientific information provided on the labels of food items.**

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**Discuss how new evidence can lead you to change your understanding about the possibility of life on Mars.**

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**Identify the better of two explanations for the formation of acid rain.**

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**I wonder what science things we think are most important.... I wonder if they get to study more like**

**The teacher explains how a science idea can be applied to a number of different phenomena (e.g., the movement of objects, substances with similar properties).**

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**If so, maybe they will do better on the science tests than me....**

**I heard the PISA is more about think about the world and solving problems than the Nation's Report Card.**

**And so on...**