

over **30** years of research



Based on over 30 years of research, the **University of Chicago** has found that the **most important** thing we can do to increase career and college readiness is to **write across disciplines**.

ThinkCERCA's **debate-centric approach** and **expert lesson design** ensures that students engage in the following practices:

**ENGLISH**  
**READING**  
**MATH**  
**SCIENCE**



Having students write across disciplines **5 or more times** per month results in a **.39** gain compared to less than five.



The other **greatest** gain came from students **improving a piece of writing** with a class or with peers.



**CLAIM**  
**EVIDENCE**  
**REASONING**  
COUNTERARGUMENT  
**AUDIENCE**

**ENGLISH CLASS PRACTICE**

RISE IN ENGLISH SUBTEST SCORE

RISE IN READING SUBTEST SCORE



**.39**  
✓ Across all classes, the students wrote papers defending their point of view of ideas 5 or more times (compared to less than 5)



**.38**  
✓ Improved a piece of writing as a class or with partners



**.35**  
✓ Explained how writers use tools like symbolism



**.19**  
✓ Rewrote a paper or essay in response to comments



**.27**  
✓ Discussed how culture, time, or place affects an author's writing



**.19**  
✓ Debated the meaning of a reading



**.22**  
✓ Debated the meaning of a reading

**SCIENCE CLASS PRACTICE**

**.21**  
**.19**  
**.18**  
**.16**  
**.12**

- ✓ Used evidence/data to support an argument or hypothesis
- ✓ Found information from graphs and tables
- ✓ Generated their own hypothesis
- Used laboratory equipment or specimens
- ✓ Wrote lab reports

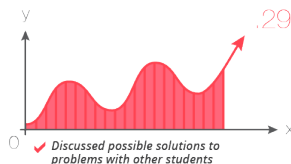
RISE IN SCIENCE SUBTEST SCORE



Even in science, the **greatest** improvements came from students **defending their hypothesis with evidence/data**.

**.21**

**MATH CLASS PRACTICE**



RISE IN MATH SUBTEST SCORE

