Work Cited Entry:

**Browning**, David. E-mail Interview over the Trade War between China and the United States. High School Social Studies Teacher. <david_browning@chino.k12.ca.us>. 2 Oct. 2019.

Interview (Topic—Trade War between the U.S. and China):

**Thesis Statement:** A protracted trade war between the United States and China will lead to a worldwide recession.

**Q:** Currently, the United States and China are playing a metaphorical road game of "chicken." Explain which country will back off of the highway first? In other words, which country will concede first?

**A:** Thus far, China has capitulated in so much as they have agreed to come to the table this month in an attempt to resolve a trade war started by President Trump. However, with the second round of December 15th tariffs on Chinese goods looming, Trump will need a quick resolution as the 2020 election draws closer.

**Q:** Which country is suffering more due to the trade war: China or the United States? And why?

**A:** If China didn’t artificially inflate its currency, [it] would be suffering now, and if the U.S. hadn’t agreed to provide billions in relief to grain farmers (mainly soy bean farmers) while the trade war [was] in effect, the soy bean farming community would be decimated by now. As a result, we are currently in a stalemate.

**Q:** If Trump were to lose the upcoming presidential election, do you think a Democrat President would continue the trade war?

**A:** If the trade war continues unresolved, and if Congress doesn’t approve further funding for farmers and other industries affected by tariffs, then our economy will be burdened by bankrupt farmers and consumers unwilling or unable to pay higher prices for electronics, shoes, plastics and a litany list of other products affected by the trade war. This economic stress could result in a downturn in the economy and the emergence of a democratic candidate offering a solution to the trade war. Should Trump lose, the trade war too will go. However, if China blinks, or if they compromise, and the economy gets relief by this time next year, this issue alone might be enough to catapult Trump to four more years, assuming he has not yet been impeached.
Q: If the trade war were to continue between the U.S. and China, would this lead to a worldwide recession?

A: As the U.S. economy goes, so goes the rest of the world. We are a global economy. So, it is inevitable that the world’s economic engine will impact the world’s economy. China also has outside issues to consider, like the growing tension with Taiwan over sovereignty and the continued protests in Hong Kong over extradition policies.

Q: Explain if you think President Trump was correct in starting a trade war with China.

A: Trump certainly had validity to question the one-sided trade imbalance between the U.S. and China. We were at a trade deficit with China in the tens of billions of dollars that seemed to put American businesses at a disadvantage in the world marketplace. However, it seems that some of the high pressure tactics used by Trump may have worked for Trump, Inc., but it remains to be seen whether or not they work for America, Inc. Even so, many American business leaders would have preferred a softer, more diplomatic approach. Trump and his supporters would argue that his predecessors tried such an approach, and that approach is what put us in our current weak position in the first place.

Converting an Interview into Text for an Argumentative Essay:

As mentioned earlier, if the trade war were to continue between China and the United States, a worldwide recession would be imminent. As a prominent social studies teacher at Chino Hills High School emphatically wrote, “As the U.S. economy goes, so goes the rest of the world. We are a global economy. So, it is inevitable that the world’s economic engine will impact the world’s economy” (Browning). Mr. Browning used a metaphor to compare the United States to a car engine. A car cannot run without the engine turned on or properly functioning. Hence, if the United States economy were to take a downturn, this would in turn affect Asia, Africa, Central America, etc. As Mr. Browning commented, “We are a global economy,” meaning what affects one country, especially a superpower such as the United States, will affect other countries because other countries export their products to the United States. The United States represents one of the largest markets in the world; hence, the employment rate in other countries would
decline if the United States’ economy were to get the flu. For example, China imports the following commodities to the United States: computers, furniture, plastics, TV’s, radios, shoes, cellphones, etc. (Scissors). If the purchasing power of Americans were to decline due to a recession, then they would not purchase as many Chinese commodities; hence, many Chinese workers would lose their job in factories, sales, shipping, etc. Overall, Mr. Browning’s main point is if the United States were to catch an economic flu due to its trade war with China, other countries would come down with economic aches, pains and high temperatures as well.