<u>Claim</u>: The military crisis confronting the empire forced Marcus Aurelius to reduce the purity of the denarius silver. **Label: SUPPORTS** Proponent < Implicit Reasoning By reducing the purity of its silver, the empire could devalue the denarius, thereby increasing the **CAUSE** amount of currency available for military spending. The military crisis confronted the empire. The empire decided to increase the amount of In the Roman Empire, the right to currency. mint money was safeguarded by **SUPPORTS** Roman Law. Suppressing financial crises requires **EFFECT** A military crisis is likely to an appropriate increase in the lead to a financial crisis. amount of currency. Marcus Aurelius reduced the purity of the denarius silver. The military crises likely demanded Trade disruptions and financial more resources, which required **shortages** often accompany military additional government spending. crises.