

**Abiturprüfung 2003 GK/Br**  
**Aufgabe für die mündliche Abiturprüfung**  
**Sach- und Gebrauchstext, Aufgabenart A1 (analytisch-interpretierend)**

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**Fundstelle des Textes:** foxnews.com, Friday, April 18, 2003 (by Bill O'Reilly)

**Wortzahl:** 332 Wörter

**Text:** Fighting the Terrorists the American Way

Hi. I'm Bill O'Reilly. Thank you for watching us tonight.

Fighting the terrorists the American way. That is the subject of this evening's Talking Points Memo. The most powerful weapon in the world is the U.S. Military machine. And the second most powerful weapon is the American consumer, you. Saddam Hussein now knows about American military power, and France is finding out about your consumer power right now.

As we reported last night, The Factor-led boycott of French products is crushing the French wine and tourist industries, among others, and the Paris business community is not real happy with Jacques Chirac right now.

Americans have the right to buy whatever they want, and Talking Points believes we can use our dollars to influence those who are working against the USA in the war on terror. Take China, for example. The United States needs that country to persuade North Korea to drop the nukes. China provides North Korea with energy and food and can absolutely destroy Kim Jong-Il's government if it wants to.

Americans buy \$125 billion worth of Chinese stuff every year, \$103 billion more than they buy from us. So, if Americans stop buying Chinese goods, China sinks into economic depression, and the way to encourage China to help stabilize the world is obviously economic. Last night Talking Points warned Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien that storm clouds are gathering down here because of his proactive belligerence towards the USA. Americans buy \$210 billion worth of Canadian stuff every year, \$50 billion more than they buy from us. So, do the math.

If we stop buying Canadian, they're in major trouble up. Thus, it is you, the American consumer, that holds a tremendous amount of power in the world. I believe Americans must begin to use that power.

The USA simply cannot fight all the bad guys. Gun boat diplomacy is impossible in this age of high-tech information and organized propaganda. But checkbook diplomacy is very possible, cheaper, and perhaps as effective. [...]

**Annotations**

**6** Factor-led – (boycott) initiated by O'Reilly in a show called *The O'Reilly Factor* 18  
proactive – acting in advance, belligerence – warlike behaviour

**Arbeitsanweisungen**

1. What suggestions does O'Reilly make to "fight[] [] the American way" (l. 2)?
2. What strategies does O'Reilly use in his comment to influence his readers?
3. Do you agree to O'Reilly's line of argumentation? Give reasons in your answer.

**Hilfsmittel:** Einsprachiges Wörterbuch