

<p><b>Topic/Prompt:</b> Should Marijuana be Legalized?</p>	
<p><b>Hook:</b> It's about time we resolve the marijuana issue.</p>	
<p><b>Background Information:</b> The debate on marijuana legalization is still ongoing; however, some states like California and Washington have already legalized marijuana use, making recreational marijuana lawful.</p>	
<p><b>Position Statement:</b> In this debate, the proponents for legalizing marijuana have a firmer ground than their opponents because they declare that legalizing marijuana can create thousands of job opportunities, lower the crime rate, and decrease the use of marijuana among teens.</p>	
<p><b>Main Idea 1:</b> Firstly, the proponents have a strong argument because they assert that legalizing marijuana can produce thousands of job opportunities.</p>	<p><b>Main Idea 2:</b> Secondly, the proponents have a stronger argument because they contend that legalizing marijuana can reduce the crime rate.</p>
<p><b>Supportive Sentence for Main Idea 1:</b> <b>(Textual Evidence)</b> For example, they argue that according to Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), "the cannabis industry in the United States "is expected to produce nearly 300,000 jobs by 2020 and grow to \$24 billion by 2025." [20]</p>	<p><b>Supportive Sentence for Main Idea 2:</b> <b>(Textual Evidence)</b> For instance, they declare that according to Taylor West, former deputy director for the National Cannabis Industry Association, "We're not seeing any increase in crime rates through marijuana – we're seeing lower crime rates, and there are good rational reasons for that: We're really beginning to cripple the criminal market, which is where violence actually occurs." [71]</p>
<p><b>Supportive Sentence for M.I. #1</b> <b>(Explanation of Textual Evidence)</b> This evidence infers that legalizing marijuana can have a significant impact on employment by</p>	<p><b>Supportive Sentence for M.I. # 2</b> <b>(Explanation of Textual Evidence)</b> This evidence explains that the crime rate will decrease as a result of</p>

creating job opportunities for many people. It will also generate revenue to support the economy.

legalizing marijuana. There will be fewer violent crimes, such as assault and battery, homicides, domestic violence, and robbery. As such, communities will be much safer for the public.

**Counterargument**  
**(The other side's opinion with evidence)**

**Rebuttal**  
**(Evidence to disprove the other side)**

**Conclusion:**