

Topic/Prompt: Should Recreational Marijuana Be Legal?	
Hook: Why argue over a plant that grows out of the ground?	
Background Information: It is still debated in some states whether to legalize marijuana. States such as Colorado and Washington have already legalized recreational marijuana and have implemented marijuana laws.	
Position Statement: In this ongoing debate, it is apparent that the proponents' argument is much stronger than their opponents' because they prove that marijuana is less harmful than alcohol or tobacco; it increases state funding and it increases public safety.	
Main Idea 1: Firstly, the proponents' argument is stronger than the opponents' because they prove marijuana is less harmful than alcohol or tobacco.	Main Idea 2: Secondly, proponents' have a stronger argument for legalizing marijuana than their opponents' because marijuana increases states funding.
Supportive Sentence for Main Idea 1: (Textual Evidence) For instance, proponents' state that "According to the CDC, six people die from alcohol poisoning every day and 88,000 people die annually due to excessive alcohol use in the United States." Yet, there were no reported cases of death from marijuana. (1)	Supportive Sentence for Main Idea 2: (Textual Evidence) For example, proponents' claim that "Tax revenues in legal marijuana states provide funding to the police, drug treatment and mental health centers, housing and school programs." (10)
Supportive Sentence for M.I. #1 (Explanation of Textual Evidence) This suggests that marijuana is less toxic than alcohol, since there were no documented deaths associated with marijuana use, which means that it is less harmful to the body.	Supportive Sentence for M.I. #2 (Explanation of Textual Evidence) This shows that legalizing marijuana will strengthen the economy, resulting in more state programs.

Commented [1]: I suggest saying: Who...?

Commented [2]: Opponents' argument...

Commented [3]: Let's rework this. You can say: ...promotes state funding and reduces the concerns centered on public health safety and risks.

Commented [5]: no apostrophe is needed here. Change to: the proponents have...

Commented [4]: opponents' argument...

Commented [6]: No apostrophe is needed. Change to: the opponents...

Commented [7]: no apostrophe is needed. The proponents state...

Commented [8]: No apostrophe is needed here. Why did you change these words (proponents and opponents) to include an apostrophe? This is not correct. Please do not make changes to your template that I have not recommended. This causes a problem in turns of me having to review your entire template again. This is time consuming when I have other assignments to review.

Also, you need to complete the lesson on when to use an apostrophe if you are not sure when to use it. The lesson can be found on the content resources page, under LA Writing i.e. Grammar & Composition 1: Apostrophe, p. 277

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<p>Counterargument (The other side's opinion with evidence)</p> <p>On the contrary, opponents believe that marijuana should not be legalized. They argue that "(1) cannabis is a dangerous drug and as such is a public health concern." (12)</p>	<p>Rebuttal (Evidence to disprove the other side)</p> <p>However, proponents' have a stronger argument in that they prove marijuana poses no a minimum risk to a person's health. For example, they report that according to Dr. L. Nathan, a clinical psychiatrist and president of Doctors for Cannabis Regulation, "In several respects, even sugar poses more of a threat to our nation's health than pot," (9)</p> <p>This confirms that marijuana is a safer drug in comparison to other drugs that tend to be more toxic to humans.</p>
<p>Conclusion:</p> <p>In summary, the proponents' argument that marijuana should be legalized is better supported than their opponents' argument. The proponents' prove that marijuana is not a harmful drug, it is much safer than alcohol or tobacco and improves the economy. There is also evidence that marijuana increases public safety. Because marijuana is one of the safest recreational drugs, it should be legalized for recreational use.</p>	

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Commented [13]: marijuana is a safer drug... drugs (to include sugar) that tend to pose a greater health risk to humans.

Commented [14]: Change to: the opponents' argument...

Commented [15]: Delete the apostrophe.

Commented [16]: Use a semicolon i.e. Change to: ...drug; it is much safer than other substances. It also benefits the economy.

Commented [17]: ...than other substances.

Commented [18]: Delete. This is actually covered in the previous statements (i.e. not a harmful drug... safer than alcohol or tobacco.

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