

Topic/Prompt: Should Recreational Marijuana Be Legalized?	
Hook:	
Background Information:	
Position Statement: Proponents say that marijuana should be legalized because it is a herb that is less harmful than alcohol, has economical benefits for major industries, and the tax revenue helps fund public programs and mental health centers.	
Main Idea 1: First off, the argument that the herb, marijuana, is less harmful than alcohol from proponents is stronger than their opponents when it comes to the legalization of marijuana.	Main Idea 2: Secondly, the argument from proponents about the economical benefits for major industries, especially tourism and banking, is way stronger than their opponents.
Supportive Sentence for Main Idea 1: (Textual Evidence) For example, around 88,000 people die each year from alcohol poisoning and there is no evidence of anyone dying from marijuana use. (procon.org, pro 9)	Supportive Sentence for Main Idea 2: (Textual Evidence) For example, a few of the major industries that benefit from legal marijuana are tourism, food, banking and transportation. (procon.org, pro 1)
Supportive Sentence for M.I. #1 (Explanation of Textual Evidence) This is proving that the herb, marijuana, is not as harmful to the human body as alcohol and that more people die each year from alcohol use than they do from marijuana use.	Supportive Sentence for M.I. # 2 (Explanation of Textual Evidence) This is suggesting suggests that major industries like tourism, transportation, food and banking benefit from the legalization of marijuana.
Counterargument	Rebuttal

Commented [1]: You need to clearly state your position. Follow the sample below.

Also, you need to discuss your reasons from the proponents' stance on the issue. For example, you can say: ...because they argue that marijuana is ...; has...; and generates tax revenues that fund public programs. Note: If the mental health centers are public centers, then they are included in the public programs. If they are not, then you can say: ...public and private programs.

Commented [2]: Position sample: In this ongoing debate, it is apparent that the proponents' argument is much stronger than the opponents' argument because they prove that marijuana is less harmful than alcohol or tobacco; it promotes state funding and reduces the concerns centered on public health safety and risks.

Commented [3]: Let's say: Firstly. It's more formal.

Commented [5]: Good job on transitioning. Here you can say: Secondly, the proponents argue that marijuana has economical benefits for major industries. (This should be directly taken from your position statement).

Commented [4]: You need to present your argument from the proponents' viewpoint. You can say: Firstly, the proponents argue that marijuana is less harmful than alcohol. Apply this comment and example to revise main idea #2 as well.

Commented [6]: Your supportive sentences for main idea 1 and 2 are closely related to another students' work. Keep in mind that the teacher and students' samples are only to be used as guides. Your ideas should be original (i.e. your own).

Commented [7]: Good Job on transitioning. However, you need to include some evidence that show the economic benefits to these industries. Some statistical evidence would be very strong and useful.

Commented [8]: Change to proves. You are speaking in the present tense.

Commented [9]: You do not need to keep referring to marijuana as an herb. It is already understood.

Commented [10]: You need to do a better job connecting your evidence to your main idea once you have provided stronger evidence.

(The other side's opinion with evidence)

(Evidence to disprove the other side)

Conclusion: