

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 reduces 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 explains that marijuana is less toxic than alcohol, less harmful to the body, and no documented deaths due to marijuana has been reported.	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]: Okay, this is workable. Let's reword it slightly. You can say: 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.

<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 pose no risk to a person's health. For example, proponents report that</p> <p>"In several respects, even sugar poses more of a threat to our nation's health than pot," said Dr. L. Nathan, a clinical psychiatrist and president of Doctors for Cannabis Regulation. (9)</p> <p>This confirms that marijuana is a safe drug that will benefit consumers and society.</p>
<p>Conclusion:</p>	

Commented [3]: Marijuana poses. The subject/verb agreement rule is applicable here.

Commented [2]: Very good use of a transition. Very good job on stating the other side's position and supporting it with evidence.

Commented [4]: Good, but let's rework this statement. You can say: For example, they report that according to Dr. L. Nathan, a clinical...Regulation, "In several...pot" (9)

Commented [5]: Good. Let's say: ...safer drug in comparison to other drugs that tend to be more toxic to humans.

Commented [6]: Delete. This is no evidence that talks about the benefits to consumers and society.

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