

Arizona Initiatives Position Paper

Assignment: In a class period, write a position paper that answers the Essential Question (EQ) in a thesis statement, follows the outline and meets the Yes Test.

Essential Question: How should Arizona Voters vote on one of the proposed initiative question in the 2006 election?

40 points possible

Topics / 2006 Initiative Proposal:

- Ban same-sex marriage, civil unions
- Declare English the state's official language
- Raise minimum wage to \$6.75/hour
- Set up \$1 million lottery for those who vote each year
- Ban smoking in most public places, including bars and restaurants
- Impose 80-cent-a-pack cigarette tax to fund programs for early childhood development*

Outline:

- I. Intro
 - a. Give background on the proposal. Briefly state what it says in a sentence or two in the 2006 general election
 - b. State a thesis, “ The voters of Arizona should / should not pass the -----
-proposal.”
- II. Support the thesis
 - a. Transition sentence from thesis
 - b. Give a reason for the thesis
 - c. Quote an article or person (can be a quote of opinion from a fellow student).
 - d. State a reason why that quote proves the thesis
- III. The other side of the thesis
 - a. Transition sentence from thesis
 - b. Give a reason for the thesis
 - c. Quote an article or person (can be a quote of opinion from a fellow student).
- IV. Conclusion
 - a. State why this question is important
 - b. Restate the thesis

**The Position Paper Yes Test
Arizona Initiatives Position Paper**

Name:

Period:

Grade _____/40

"Yes" or "No"?

1. _____ Takes a clear position in thesis
2. _____ Thesis answers the essential question
3. _____ Thesis supported / paragraphs follow thesis
4. _____ Clearly uses "habits of mind."
5. _____ Written in third person
6. _____ States the significance of the issue
7. _____ Follows assignment outline.
8. _____ At least ONE quote and or opinion incorporated in essays evidence.
9. _____ Thesis restated in conclusion?
10. _____ States another point of such as the other side of the writer's thesis.

Grading:

Six-Traits Writing – 1 to 5 possible in each = 20X 2 = 20 possible

Ideas	Organization	Fluency	Conventions	Total	X4=
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Ideas = Connections, assessments, evaluations and your own descriptions.

Fluency = Ease to read

Organization = Follows the outline, generally

Conventions= Spelling grammar, citations

**Turn this Yes Test in, stapled to the top of your
essay. Be sure and write your name and class
period.**