

English 100 Research Topic Ideas

Topic Proposal Directions: Below is a partial (not an exhaustive) list of controversial topics that you may wish to work with or modify. Many topics are quite general and would require further focusing/narrowing. Submit 2 proposals and 2 positions by midnight Friday this week in the form indicated in the box below. Any deviation in format will be rejected and a revision will be required by Saturday.

1. Should the tuition to California Community Colleges be raised?
2. Should a bill pass making it possible for members of the military to state their sexual orientation?
3. Should a mosque be built at ground zero?
4. Should the sale of junk food be banned from junior high and high schools in California?
5. Should the U.S. criminalize anchor babies? (U.S born babies allow illegal immigrant parents to stay in the U.S)
6. Should high schools offer sex education to their students?
7. Should sexual education be taught in public and private schools?
8. Should high school students be required to take a teen pregnancy class?
9. Should Americans keep purchasing foreign cars over American-made cars?
10. Should the world prepare more extensively for global warming?
11. Should high schools force their students to wear uniforms?
12. Should doctors be able to practice euthanasia?
13. Is it humane to criminalize euthanasia?
14. Should there be higher restrictions or possible tax increase for cigarettes to reduce or eliminate smoking?
15. Should schools be allowed run random drug tests on students?
16. Should metal detectors be installed at all public K-12 schools?
17. Should the federal government limit the protection of the first amendment? (referring to the case regarding picketing at military funerals)
18. Should we repeal the "three strikes" sentencing law?
19. Should California require auto manufactures to include GPS as mandatory equipment for every car?
20. Censorship: Should artists be free to say whatever they wish in music lyrics or should they be worried about censorship?
21. Child Abuse: Should parents be allowed to physically discipline their child? (corporal punishment)
22. Should English be made the official language of the U.S.?
23. Should parents of severely obese children be charged with child abuse?
24. Should single parents be allowed to adopt?
25. Should stem cell research continue?
26. Should animals be used for research?
27. Should the military be allowed to recruit at high schools?
28. Should people be banned from donating money and food to the homeless?
29. Should California expand state prisons?
30. Should the drinking age be lowered to 18?

EXAMPLE SUBMISSION FORMAT:

Controversy: Should public high schools pass out free condoms to teenage students?

Position: Public high schools should pass out condoms to teenage students.