**RESEARCH GUIDE SHEET- AP LANGUAGE POSITION ESSAY**

**from PROCON.ORG**

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| TOPIC: |
| RESEARCH QUESTION: |

**BACKGROUND**

Example:

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| Source Citation | ProCon.org. "Background of the Issue." ProCon.org. 10 Mar. 2016, 8:56 a.m., drinkingage.procon.org/view.resource.php?resourceID=006448 |
| In-Text Citation | (“Background of the Issue) |
| Quote/Passage | 1. All 50 US states have set their minimum drinking age to 21 although exceptions do exist on a state-by-state basis for consumption at home, under adult supervision, for medical necessity, and other reasons. 2. Proponents of lowering the minimum legal drinking age (MLDA) from 21 argue that it has not stopped teen drinking, and has instead pushed underage binge drinking into private and less controlled environments, leading to more health and life-endangering behavior by teens. 3. Opponents of lowering the MLDA argue that teens have not yet reached an age where they can handle alcohol responsibly, and thus are more likely to harm or even kill themselves and others by drinking prior to 21. They contend that traffic fatalities decreased when the MLDA increased. |

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| Source Citation |  |
| In-Text Citation |  |
| Quote/Passage | 1. Overview/Summary- 2. Proponents say- 3. Opponents say- |

**PRO/CON QUOTES & ARGUMENTS (of the side that you DO agree with)**

For in-text citations, cite the author’s LAST name; if there is no author then cite the article title (in quotation marks).

Example:

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| Source Citation | David Eby, "The Convicted Drunk Driver in Michigan: A Profile of Offenders," UMTRI Research Review, 1995. |
| In-Text Citation | (Eby) |
| Quote/Passage | …about half of drivers arrested for driving while intoxicated (DWI) or killed as alcohol-involved drivers in traffic crashes did their drinking at licensed establishments. |

Example:

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| Source Citation | US Federal Trade Commission (FTC), "Dangers of Teen Drinking," dontserveteens.gov (accessed Oct. 20, 2010). |
| In-Text Citation | (“Dangers of Teen Drinking”) |
| Quote/Passage | Alcohol consumption can interfere with development of the young adult brain's frontal lobes, essential for functions such as emotional regulation, planning, and organization. |

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**TOP COUNTERARGUMENTS (of the side that you DON’T agree with)**

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