

**Activity I**

**Instructions: Read the following paragraph and fill in the form below.**

**The Right to Die**

In my opinion, euthanasia or mercy killing should be legalized for several reasons. First, some patients have no chance of recovery. They can never lead normal lives and must be kept alive by life-support machines such as respirators to help them breathe and feeding tubes to provide them with nutrition. They are clearly more dead than alive and will never be able to live a normal life. For example, Big, one member of the D2B band, is now in a coma and seems to have no chance to be normal again.

Second, the medical costs are very high. Today the cost of a hospital room can be as much as 1,200 baht per day for basic care in a private hospital, which does not include the cost of specialized care or the use of equipment. The high cost of medical care can cause financial problems for the family. Finally, the family also suffers. The nurses and other hospital staff can give the terminally ill patient only minimum care. Thus, the family must spend time to care for the special needs of their loved one. No one can say how long it takes. In conclusion, because terminally ill patients have no chance to recover and to live normal lives, they should be allowed to die with dignity. Therefore, the family should have the right to ask doctors to turn off the life-support machines or to stop further medical treatment. What do you think about mercy killing?

(Adapted from: Oshima A. and Hogue A. (1997). *Introduction to Academic Writing*. New York:Longman)

Topic sentence: .....

Major supporting detail 1: .....

Minor supporting details 1.1: .....

1.2: .....

1.3: .....

Major 2: .....

Minor 2.1 : .....

Minor 2.2 : .....

Major 3 : .....

Minor 3.1 : .....

Minor 3.2 : .....

Minor 3.3 : .....

Conclusion : .....

.....

Sentence that asks for more ideas : .....

**Activity II**

**Instructions: 1. Read the following passage and compare it with the paragraph in Activity I.  
2. Discuss with your friend next to you about euthanasia or the mercy killing.**

**The Right to Die**

A difficult problem that is facing society is the legalization of euthanasia, another word for mercy killing or kind killing. Euthanasia is a method of causing death painlessly to end suffering. Thai laws do not allow doctors to end people's lives although they are terminally ill and do not have a chance to recover. However, in my opinion, euthanasia should be legalized for several reasons.

First, some patients have no chance of recovery. They can never lead normal lives and must be kept alive by life-support machines such as respirators to help them breathe and feeding tubes to provide them with nutrition. They are clearly more dead than alive and will never be able to live a normal life. For example, Big, one member of the D2B band, is now in a coma and seems to have no chance to be normal again.

Second, the medical costs are very high. Today the cost of a hospital room can be as much as 1,200 baht per day for basic care in a private hospital, which does not include the cost of specialized care or the use of equipment. The high cost of medical care can cause financial problems for the family.

Finally, the family also suffers. The nurses and other hospital staff can give the terminally ill patient only minimum care. Thus, the family must spend time to care for the special needs of their loved one. No one can say how long it takes.

In conclusion, because terminally ill patients have no chance to recover and to live normal lives, they should be allowed to die with dignity. Therefore, the family should have the right to ask doctors to turn off the life-support machines or to stop further medical treatment. What do you think about mercy killing?

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**3. Write a paragraph to express your ideas about euthanasia. Your paragraph should include at least 8 sentences.**

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**Activity IV**

**Instructions: 1. Read the following passage and answer the questions below.**

**Medical Marijuana**

Medical scientists and doctors in the United States have recently discovered that marijuana , an illegal drug, is an effective medicine for severely ill patients who cannot get relief from their usual prescription drugs. In my opinion, marijuana should be legal for medical uses because it can improve the quality of life for some people with serious illnesses.

First of all, marijuana can help cancer patients who must undergo chemotherapy or take anticancer drugs that cause serious side effects. It can also help AIDS patients to regain their appetite and therefore to gain weight. Moreover, it might effectively stop the spread of glaucoma, which can cause blindness, and it can relieve joint pain and relax muscles in certain other illnesses. Unfortunately, because marijuana is an illegal drug, it cannot be purchased even with a doctor’s prescription at the pharmacy.

In brief, smoking marijuana is effective enough to help seriously ill people enjoy a meal or life without constant pain. Therefore, marijuana for medical purposes should be legal. What do you think about it?

( Adapted from : Oshima A. and Hogue A. (1997). *Introduction to Academic Writing*. New York: Longman)

1. What is the writer’s opinion about legalizing marijuana for medical uses?  
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2. What is the opinion statement ?  
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3. What are the major supporting details?  
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4. What sentences show a conclusion?  
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5. What are the transition signals?  
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6. What is the sentence that asks for more ideas?  
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