

Sample thesis statements:

Should New York State ban the sale of electronic cigarettes?

- **Viewpoint 1:** Electronic cigarettes have led to many deaths since their introduction to the market in 2017. Because of the health risk they pose, New York State has an obligation to ban the sale of e-cigarettes and vaping supplies.

- **Viewpoint 2:** Traditional tobacco products have been available to consumers ever since farmers discovered how to process tobacco and make it into a marketable product. Electronic cigarettes are simply the next evolution of the traditional cigarette and pose no health risks, and banning them is unnecessary.

Should the federal government allow teachers and other staff members be allowed to carry concealed weapons at school?

- **Viewpoint 1:** Arming the adults in school buildings could help prevent mass casualties, should a mass-shooter attack. In certain situations, the only way to subdue a dangerous intruder is with a weapon, and the adults in charge have a responsibility to protect their students. Teachers and school staff should be allowed to carry conceal weapons.

- **Viewpoint 2:** The majority of teachers and school administrators have no military training, or experience with weapons. Law enforcement officers train for years, in order to correctly handle emergency situations. How could a school teacher, who had never previously held a gun, be expected to react appropriately to a terrorist attack? School personnel should not be allowed to carry concealed weapons at school.