Argument Essay Feedback

Text

Added Sugar Tax

Did you know that one and a half billion adult were considered obese in 2008? (WHO) More than a decades later, that number has doubled. Added sugar in processed food is a major causes of obesity, which is set to become the biggest health crisis in developed countries in recent years. The solution is not difficult to see. We need to ensure people eat less sugar in their diets. Sugar is added to processed food during resulting in an increase in the number of people suffering from obesity and type II diabetes, which is much worse than naturally occurring sugars in fruit and vegetables or concentrated in natural sweeteners like honey. We need an added-sugar tax in this country because taxing sugar will reduce sales of fast food and because the money that we collect can help to healthcare. Added taxes will immediately reduce demand for added sugar and incentivize positive food choices. Taxes on cigarettes have been shown to reduce smoking rates in the US. In fact, every 10% increase in the price of cigarettes has led to a 4% decrease in cigarette sales (CDC). The same reductions in consumption can be expected once a tax on added sugar is put in place. Canada would not be the first to implement such a tax. Hungary levied a flat tax on food containing high levels of fat, sugar, and salt (Cheney). Denmark has implemented a tax of 2.15 EUR on saturated fat.

A sin tax on added sugar will help to pay for the crippling harm sugar causes on public health. The tax collected on processed foods with added sugar will help to pay for the negative effects added sugar in food has on the country's health. People who eat a lot of sugar have a greater risk of heart disease, obesity, and type II diabetes. If people insist on eating food with added sugar, then they should pay extra for the additional burden they place our healthcare system. Sin taxes on food additives are not uncommon. Hungary put a tax on fat, sugar and salt in 2011 (Cheney). Denmark did the same on saturated fat later the same year (Danish).

Some people claim that a tax on food additives will hurt the poorest segment of society the most by making food more expensive. Indeed, the poorest members of society will pay more for unhealthy food. However, the real burden on the poorest segment of society is ill health. Furthermore, taxes collected on food additives can be used to make healthier choices cheaper and more abundant, with subsidies on fruits, vegetables, and lean meat.

In conclusion, a sugar tax is needed to discourage bad food choices and pay medical bill for sick people. I therefore recommend that citizens of this country write to their members of parliament and demand a tax be placed on poisonous additives in our food system. When enough people do that, the government of this country will be forced to act and we will live in a healthy happier society with a better food culture and lower healthcare costs.

Works Cited

CDC, Steady Increases in Tobacco Taxes Promote Quitting, Discourage Smoking, published 5/27/2009, http://www.cdc.gov/features/SecondhandSmoke/, accessed 14/9/2011

WHO, http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs311/en/index.html, accessed 9/12/2011

Cheney, C., Hungary Introduces 'Fat Tax', published 9/1/2011, http://www.spiegel.de/international/europe/0,1518,783862,00.html, accessed 9/12/2011

Danish Agriculture & Food Council, Fat tax in Denmark agreed, published 6/22/2011, http://www.agricultureandfood.co.uk/Current_issues/Danish_Matters/2011/June/Fat_tax_in_Denmark_agreed.aspx, accessed 9/12/2011

Argument Essay

Assignment Score: 73.25

Writing quantity

1. You have written 513 words.

2. I count a total of 5 paragraphs.

3. You have written 29 sentences.

4. You have written 1 question.

Essay structure and content: 68%

Paragraph 1 - introduction: 80%

Did you know that one and a half billion adult were considered obese in 2008?

Opening:

Starting your essay with a question is a great way to engage your reader's attention. Try questions like these: Have you ever seen...? or Did you know that...? Your score for this feature = 100/100

I detected one or more errors in your first sentence. That's not good. Your reader will begin reading your essay and immediately get a bad impression of your writing. Avoid scaring your reader off by checking your writing for errors. (If the system generates a false alarm, you can send an email to the contact us page with the sentence and I will fix it for you.) Your score for this feature = 0/100

Context:

I found one or more instances of words and phrases that help to establish the importance of your topic. Good. Your score for this feature = 100/100

You have chosen **food tax** as your topic. Your introduction contains 5 food-tax-related words. That is good. Here are some words I expected to encounter in a discussion on this topic: *diabetes, fast food, fats, food additives, food culture, healthcare, healthier choice, heart disease, obesity, overweight, processed food, sugar, tax, weight gain.* **Your score for this feature = 100/100**

Thesis:

We need an added-sugar tax in this country because taxing sugar will reduce sales of fast food and because the money that we collect can help to healthcare.

The last sentence of your introduction incorporates characteristics of a thesis statement that should have an impact on your reader. That's good. Remember that a good thesis statement should express a succinct debatable claim with supporting reasons that you can develop with evidence and reasons. **Your score for this feature = 100/100**

Paragraph 2 - first supporting argument: 40%

Added taxes will immediately reduce demand for added sugar and incentivize positive food choices.

Topic sentence:

The first sentence of this paragraph has characteristics of a good topic sentence. That's good.

Nevertheless, remember this advice: an effective topic sentence in an argument essay should make one debatable claim that will catch your reader's attention and that the rest of the paragraph will elaborate on with reasons and examples. **Your score for this feature = 100/100**

Argue:

You have not used any words commonly used in argumentation. Use argumentation words and phrases for a higher score. Some examples of words that you can use are as follows: *by analogy, we can conclude, evidence, fact, fallacy, implication, follows that, it makes*

Evidence: You have not used any words commonly used used when giving evidence. That's not good. Use one or two more words and phrases for giving evidence to get a higher score. Some examples of words that you can use are as follows: *according to, to quote from, tells us that, shows us that, referring to, argues that, stated, wrote, argued, discussed, expressed the concern that.* Your score for this feature = 0/100

Cite sources: You have included more than one citation. That's very good. Your score for this feature = 100/100

Support: You have not used any words commonly used for providing support. Use one or two more support words and phrases for a higher score. Some examples of words that you can use are as follows: *a case in point, an analogy, another way, as an example, as an illustration, consider, put another way.* Your score for this feature = 0/100

Paragraph 3 - second supporting argument: 40%

Topic sentence: *A sin tax on added sugar will help to pay for the crippling harm sugar causes on public health.*

The first sentence of this second body paragraph has characteristics of a strong topic sentence. That's good. Your score for this feature = 100/100

Argue: You have not used any words commonly used in argumentation. Use argumentation words and phrases for a higher score. Some examples of words that you can use are as follows: *by analogy, we can conclude, evidence, fact, fallacy, implication, follows that, it makes sense, opinion, point of view, posit, premise, proof, statistic, reason, relevance.* Your score for this feature = 0/100

Evidence: You have not used any words commonly used used when giving evidence. That's not good. Use one or two more words and phrases for giving evidence to get a higher score. Some examples of words that you can use are as follows: *according to, to quote from, tells us that, shows us that, referring to, argues that, stated, wrote, argued, discussed, expressed the concern that.* Your score for this feature = 0/100

Cite sources: You have included a citation. It is important to use and cite at least one source. Your score for this feature = 100/100

Support: You have not used any words commonly used for providing support. Use one or two more support words and phrases for a higher score. Some examples of words that you can use are as follows: *a case in point, an analogy, another way, as an example, as an illustration, consider, put another way.* Your score for this feature = 0/100

Paragraph 4 - counterargument: 80%

Topic sentence: *Some people claim that a tax on food additives will hurt the poorest segment of society the most by making food more expensive.*

The first sentence of this paragraph has the characteristics of a counterargument. That's good. **Your score for this feature = 100/100**

Counter argue: You have introduced an opposing view using a commonly used phrase for reporting counterarguments. That's good. Your score for this feature = 100/100

Concede: You have used a phrase that's common in conceding a point. That's good. Your score for this feature = 100/100

Refute: You have used a word or phrase to signal your refutation of the opposing argument. That's good. Your score for this feature = 100/100

Cite sources: You have not included a citation. That's not good. It is important to indicate your sources.

Conclusion: 100%

Reformulation of the thesis:	*In conclusion, a sugar tax is needed to discourage bad food choices and pay medical bill for sick people.*
	Your reformulated thesis in your conclusion is 13% the same as your thesis statement in your introduction. That's good. Your score for this feature = 100/100
	The first sentence of your conclusion takes a strong stance. That's very good. Your score for this feature = 100/100
Recommendation:	The paragraph contains suggestion words like *recommend*.
	You made a recommendation. That's good. It is a good practice in an essay of this type to recommend a course of action to your reader. Your score for this feature = 100/100
Prediction:	The paragraph contains prediction words like *will*.
	I checked your conclusion for prediction words to see if you had made a prediction. It seems you have. That's good. Your score for this feature = 100/100

Vocabulary: 90%

Argument-related words: *because, claim, conclusion, fact, therefore*

Feedback: You have used a variety of words related to argumentation. That's good. Your score for this feature = 80/100

Topic-related words: *medical, suffering, harm, citizens, consumption, diabetes, fast food, food additives, food culture, fruit, fruits, health, healthcare, healthier choices, healthy, heart disease, levied, meat, obese, obesity, processed food, processed foods, salt, saturated fat, sugar, tax, taxes, type II, unhealthy, vegetables*

Feedback: You have used many controversy-related words in your essay. That's very good. Your score for this feature = 100/100

Scholarship: 100%

Works Cited

Heading found: yes

4 works cited found: 100%

Language Accuracy: 35%

Number of errors: 8

Feedback: I detected many errors in your writing. Reread your essay carefully and use a spell checker and grammar checker to help you identify and eliminate avoidable errors. Your score for this feature = 35/100

Grammar Check Feedback

You wrote: ...id you know that one and a half billion <u>adult</u> were considered obese in 2008? (WHO) Mo...

Feedback: Use a plural form of "adult" with numbers larger than one. "adults"

Suggestion: adults

You wrote: ...nsidered obese in 2008? (WHO) More than a decades later, that number has doubled. Added s...

Feedback: Don't use indefinite articles with plural words. Did you mean "a decade" or simply "decades"?

Suggestion: a decade, decades

You wrote: ...dded sugar in processed food is a major causes of obesity, which is set to become the ...

Feedback: The word "causes" is plural, but you have used an indefinite article. Use a singular form or use a phrase like "one of the" before the plural form. Revise: "a major cause" or "one of the major causes".

Suggestion: a major cause, one of the major causes

You wrote: ...e the money that we collect can help to healthcare. Added taxes will immediately reduc...

Feedback: You are missing a verb. Revise, "can help to pay for healthcare".

Suggestion: can help to pay for healthcare

You wrote: ...pay for the crippling harm sugar causes on public health. The tax collected on pro...

Feedback: Use "in" or "to" with "causes" like this: "the crippling harm sugar causes in public health" or "the crippling harm sugar causes to public health"

Suggestion: the crippling harm sugar causes in public health, the crippling harm sugar causes to public health

You wrote: ... with added sugar, then they should pay extra for the additional burden they place ou...

Feedback: Use a plural form for more than one "extra".

Suggestion: they should pay extras

You wrote: ...ourage bad food choices and pay medical bill for sick people. I therefore recommend...

Feedback: Use a plural when you mean more than one bill for multiple people. Revise: "pay the medical bills for sick people" (Plural needed)

Suggestion: pay the medical bills for sick people

You wrote: ...nment of this country will be forced to act and we will live in a healthy happier socie...

Feedback: Use a comma before "and" if it connects two independent clauses (unless they are closely connected and short).

Suggestion: act, and