

Vertical Farming Policy Brief Final Task

Introduction

Your tenure as an aide to United States Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney is going along smoothly (remember that she represents eastern Manhattan as well as parts of Queens). You have the opportunity to offer her ideas for new laws and legislation.

While working, you come across several articles about vertical farming. Working for a representative in New York City, you realize that this is an issue of which your boss should be aware. Thus, your task is to write a policy brief about whether or not New York City should begin to pursue vertical farming on at least some of the city's vacant lots (almost 9,000 acres worth in New York City).

Your policy brief should contain the following:

- **An overview of vertical farming and how it works.**
 - How does farming/plant growth actually work?
 - What reactions and/or structures are involved in plant growth?
 - Should plants be able to grow according to the principles of vertical farming?
 - Under what conditions will plants grow indoors?
- **Advantages and disadvantages of vertical farming.**
 - What are the benefits of vertical farming?
 - What are the drawbacks of vertical farming?
 - Who are the stakeholders in NYC affected by decisions about vertical farming?
 - What might their opinion be and how might they be affected?
 - If vertical farming is going to be carried out on a large scale, then can your knowledge of photosynthesis and the factors that affect it be useful for developing more efficient plans?
- **Your views on vertical farming.** State a precise claim, distinguish it from the opposing view (counterclaim), and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among the claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
 - Do you claim that it is a viable option worth pursuing in New York City? Or do you claim that it will not have any meaningful impact on the city? Or do you claim something different?
 - Develop your claim and the counterclaims fairly. Give evidence for both sides and note the strengths and weaknesses of each.
 - Be sure to use specific vocabulary (about photosynthesis, light, etc.) that you learned during the unit.
 - Provide a sense of closure that follows from and supports your views.
 - Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
- **Reference at least 2 or 3 texts** on vertical farming that we read throughout the unit as you draw evidence to support your analysis, reflection, and research.
- **Include an APA formatted bibliography.**
- Remember you are writing to Congresswoman Maloney, so your **writing should be developed, organized, and in a style that is appropriate to your audience.**

Final Task Rubric

Score	Criteria
4 (Exceeds Standards)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduces precise, well-informed claim about vertical farming in NYC - Clearly establishes the significance of the claim by addressing and precisely describing the problem - Creates an organization that logically sequences the claim(s), counter-claims, reasons, and evidence - Provides a concluding statement/section that follows from and enhances the argument presented - Develops claim and counterclaims fairly and thoroughly with logical reasoning - Supplies only relevant and very persuasive evidence to support claim and counterclaims - Establishes and maintains a formal style and objective tone - Demonstrates a strong command of the conventions of standard English
3 (Meets Standards)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduces precise claim about vertical farming in NYC - Establishes the significance of the claim by addressing the problem clearly - Creates an organization that logically sequences the claim(s), counter-claims, reasons, and evidence - Provides a concluding statement/section that follows from and supports the argument presented - Develops claim and counterclaims fairly with logical reasoning - Supplies relevant and persuasive evidence to support claim and counterclaims - Establishes and maintains a formal style and objective tone - Demonstrates a consistent command of the conventions of standard English
2 (Approaches Standards)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduces basic claim about vertical farming in NYC - Introduces the significance of the claim - Organizes the reasons and evidence logically - Provides a concluding statement/section that follows from or supports the argument presented - Develops claim fairly with logical reasoning - Supplies evidence to support claim - Establishes and maintains a formal style - Demonstrates adequate command of the conventions of standard English
1 (Needs Major Revisions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduces or implies a vague claim about vertical farming in NYC - Acknowledges the significance of the claim - Organizes the reasons and evidence - Provides a concluding statement/section that follows from or supports the argument presented - Develops claim with logical reasoning - Supplies evidence to support claim - Establishes and maintains a formal style - Demonstrates adequate command of the conventions of standard English

My claim about VF	
My 1st argument	
The evidence that supports that argument	
How the evidence connects to and supports my argument	
What is the counterclaim?	
What is the evidence to support the counterclaim?	
What are the ways in which the counterclaim may be flawed?	