

Dry Debate Answer Key

Student responses should include:

- A clear claim: failed, succeeded, or both
- At least three accurate, relevant examples of historical evidence such as:
 - Supporters hoped to reduce crime, improve families, and promote moral behavior
 - Alcohol consumption dropped temporarily at first
 - Organized crime and illegal alcohol trade increased
 - Corruption spread among law enforcement and politicians
 - Prohibition was unpopular and difficult to enforce
 - The 21st Amendment repealed the 18th after 13 years
- A concluding statement summarizing the argument

Any well-reasoned position with accurate evidence should be considered correct.

Teacher's Guide

Before Writing

- Brainstorm pros and cons of Prohibition as a class
- Review key vocabulary: amendment, repeal, bootlegging, organized crime

Differentiation Tips

- Use a graphic organizer to sort evidence before writing
- Allow oral rehearsal of ideas in pairs
- Provide a checklist: claim, evidence, explanation, conclusion

Engagement Strategies

- Quick debate: Students choose a side and switch halfway to argue the opposite
- Read a short quote from a reformer vs. a bootlegger and respond
- Exit ticket: "What surprised you most about Prohibition?"