Lesson Plan Comparison AI vs Human

# **CENTRAL QUESTION**

The United States is a nation of immigrants—one that has attracted people from all over the world for reasons as diverse as the cultures they represent. But for generations, Americans have struggled to determine how the federal government should best regulate levels of immigration and most effectively control who crosses U.S. borders. In this *Close Up in Class Controversial Issue in the News*, we will examine several proposals to reform the immigration system and challenge you to weigh the pros and cons of the various paths forward.

**How should the government reform its immigration system?**

The following pages contain six proposals that the government could incorporate into its immigration policies. Consider the pros and cons of each proposal, conduct any additional research, and answer or discuss the following questions:

* Which proposal(s), if any, do you favor? Why?
* Which proposal(s), if any, would you change? How?
* Which proposal(s), if any, would you reject? Why?
* Are there any other proposals that you would put forward? Explain your answer.

# **INTRODUCTION**

## **EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS**

### **How should the government reform its immigration system?**

## Activity

**The government should establish a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants already in the United States.**

| **What Supporters Say** | **What Opponents Say** |
| --- | --- |
| The hard truth is that there are an estimated 10.5 million undocumented immigrants already living in the United States; two-thirds of undocumented adults have lived in the country for more than ten years. It is simply not right or feasible for the government to round up and deport 3.2 percent of the population, many of whom have made their lives and families in the United States. A pathway to citizenship, however, would be a fair, lengthy, and rigorous process, involving fines, the payment of back taxes, criminal background checks, and strict rules about when an immigrant must have arrived in the United States to be eligible. Such a policy could bring millions of people out of the shadows and create a new population of Americans who are fully immersed in society—working freely, paying their taxes, and contributing their talents to the U.S. economy. | The commitment to the rule of law is perhaps the most important American ideal. A law justly formulated by Congress applies to each and every person. But if the government creates a pathway to citizenship, it would violate this principle by granting amnesty to millions of people who willfully ignored the law. Such a policy would be unfair to the millions of immigrants who waited their turn and used legal channels of immigration. It would also send a dangerous message to the world that the United States is willing to push its laws aside, encouraging future waves of illegal immigration. In 1986, for example, Congress passed the Immigration Reform and Control Act, giving legal status to 2.7 million undocumented immigrants who entered the country prior to 1982. The effect? The number of undocumented immigrants in the United States skyrocketed from 3.2 million in 1986 to 10.5 million in 2017. |

# **REFLECTION QUESTIONS**

1. Which proposal(s), if any, do you favor? Why?
2. Which proposal(s), if any, would you change? How?
3. Which proposal(s), if any, would you reject? Why?
4. Are there any other proposals that you would put forward? Explain your answer.
5. What were the most important factors you considered when deliberating on these six proposals and ultimately making a decision? Examples may include the so…