

Since the early 1800's, immigration has been both a crucial component of America's growth and a periodic source of conflict, and in recent years it has become one of the most contentious issues on the nation's political agenda.

In 2003, President Bush called for a comprehensive overhaul of the nation's immigration laws, the first since the mid-80's. His proposal focused on creating a guest worker program that would allow immigrants to legally enter the country temporarily to fill jobs that employers say would otherwise go unfilled. The plan was overshadowed by the opening of the Iraq war and was set aside during the campaign season of 2004. (New York Times, June 28, 2007) In addition to President Bush's guest worker program, other programs have been suggested that include extending amnesty to illegal aliens.

Directions: Your task for this assignment is to read the Time Magazine article "The Case for Amnesty" and complete the chart. Some of the answers for the chart are in the reading, some require your personal opinion, and some require you to use your critical thinking skills.

Why is the immigration issue so important to current citizens of the United States?	
Explain four reasons why someone would be in favor of amnesty?	

Explain four reasons why someone would not be in favor of amnesty?

What is your opinion regarding the policy of amnesty?