

Name

Date

Hour

Why are the Florida students leading on guns? Because kids make great activists. By Sally Kohn

Reading Check & Critical Analysis

1. Analyze an Argument

a) What is Kohn's claim?

b) Why does she think so?

2. An **anecdote** is a short and amusing or interesting story about a real incident or person. Summarize the anecdote in the first paragraph.

3. Why did Kohn choose to use this anecdote? Is it effective? Why or why not?

4. How is the student activism in the wake of the school shooting in Parkland, Florida unlike any other in the history of the gun debate?



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5. What does she mean when she says, “we as a nation tend to suffer from a profound myopia with respect to history”?

6. What did Claudette Calvin do?

7. What was the argument for having Rosa Parks replicate what Claudette Calvin did?

8. What is a precondition to making change in the world?

9. What are some of the reasons young people make effective activists?

10. Kohn lists a number of young people who were effective leaders in movements for injustice throughout history. List six of those anecdotes.

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11. What are some differences between the reactions to the Stoneman Douglas students and other young activists (Black Lives Matter, Dreamers)?

12. What is the counterargument against the #NeverAgain Leaders?

13. **Evidence** A **fact** is a statement that can be probed. An **opinion** is a statement of belief or feeling. Record statements from the selection and determine whether they are facts or opinions.

Statement	Fact or Opinion

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14. In the history of social change how has youth always been a blessing?

15. Does Kohn successfully prove her claim? Why or why not?

16. **Rhetoric** is the art of persuasion through language. Writer's use certain rhetorical devices to strengthen their arguments. These may include **repetition**, the repeated use of a word or phrase for emphasis, and **parallelism**, the repeated use of similar grammatical construction to express related ideas.

Record examples of Sally Kohn's use of rhetorical devices and identify their effects. Try to find three examples of either repetition or parallelism.

Repetition or Parallelism	Effect