Pick a drug of your choosing. Be creative! Make it a drug you find interesting because you will be spending a lot of time reading and writing about it. Show me how much of an expert you can become! This essay is broken up into 4 sections, each section is worth 10 points, for a total of 40 points. This is due March 10th 2019 at midnight. Use times New Roman 12 point font, double-spaced, with 1 inch margins. If you get information from any source, make sure you cite it. Below will detail what you need to include in your four sections.

**Section 1. Background**

Imagine that you are explaining what your drug is to someone who has never heard of it. Make sure to provide a thorough explanation here. Some suggestions for this section include:

* The classification of your drug (stimulant, depressant, hallucinogen, etc).
* When did use of this drug start?
* How/where do people get this drug?
* How do they use it? (injection, ingestion, inhalation, etc).
* Is this drug addictive?
* Does it have any medical use?
* What is the prevalence of use?
* What are the effects and how long do they last?
* What does treatment for this drug look like?

**Section 2. Research**

For this section you will need to use *at least* 2 academic journal articles (find these on the library website). These journal articles should involve your drug in some capacity. Write about what the main point of the article was, what their methodology was, and what they found.

Example: Anderson and Baker (2018) examined if using cocaine was related to violent victimization among youth. They used Monitoring the Future data from 2010-2015 looking at self-reported cocaine use and self-reported participation in 5 forms of violent behavior. They found cocaine use was only related to minor forms of violent behavior.

Write it like the above but with more detail. You will also need to cite the journal articles that you use.

**Section 3. Pop culture**

This section is about how the drug you chose is portrayed in pop culture (literature, music, movies, social media, etc). Using three pieces of pop culture discuss what these are saying about your drug. Are they using nicknames? Are they glorifying the drug? Are they talking about it in a realistic manner? Who are they directing their message to?

**Section 4. Personal Opinions**

At this point in the essay you know a lot about the drug you chose. You know about its background and use, academic research, and how it is discussed broadly in pop culture. For this section I want you to gauge perceptions of others. You will need to interview 2 people, this could be parents, roommates, friends, significant others, whomever. Come up with a list of questions to ask them and report what you have learned. Do they know much about the drug? How do they know what they do? Do their opinions seem to match what you have learned?

In order to receive the full 40 points for this assignment you will need to have every section completed, with full sentences, proper grammar, and citations.