Article of the Week: November 1st

The Opioid Epidemic

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/22/opinion/opioid-epidemic-companies.html>

1. The Fed Up coalition calls for pharmaceutical companies to be held responsible for the opioid epidemic. In your opinion, should these companies be blamed? What other subjects, if any, can be held responsible as well?
2. If these companies are sued and found culpable, what do you believe is the best use of the money from the settlement?
3. Prescribing opioids has become highly restricted in recent years. Should opioids be banned altogether, or merely have stronger regulations by physicians when they are being distributed?
4. Senator Kamala Harris states that pharmaceutical executives involved with the marketing of opioids are “nothing more than some high-level dope dealers.” Do you agree with this statement, and should these executives face criminal charges with possible jail time?
5. If you had a major surgery that would leave you in severe pain for weeks during recovery, would you be open to an opioid prescription? Would the temporary pain relief be worth the risk of potential addiction?