**Worksheet 8: Is hydroponics the future of farming?**

Now you know more about hydroponics, let’s evaluate the benefits and concerns about the hydroponic system. Proponents of the hydroponic system argue several points regarding potential benefits of hydroponic farming/gardening. First, in many locations (e.g., cities), there isn’t enough space or soil to grow plants in the ground. Hydroponics allows people to grow plants in a limited space without soil. Second, hydroponics can be used to help solve food shortage in some regions, such as countries in Africa and the Middle East, where weather conditions are unfavorable for large-scale crop production. Third, hydroponics is environmentally more friendly as it uses less water, land space, and fertilizers. What do you think of these claims? Fill out the table below, 1) what other people claim about hydroponics, 2) what you think of the claim, and 3) how you support your thought. Your argument should be based on reliable sources of information and your critical evaluation.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Claim made by others**  | **Your thought about the claim** | **Support of your thought** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |