How to Prepare for a Debate

Once you've selected your debate topic, the next step is to prepare for your debate. Follow these steps as you get ready to take the podium.

Read Your Evidence

The most important step to building your debate confidence is to **familiarize yourself with the evidence available. The more well read on your topic you are, the better you'll be able to defend your position** and anticipate the other side's arguments. Make sure you express your ideas and back them up by using different types of sources such as: experts point of views, articles, researches, statistics, among others.

Anticipate the Other Side's Arguments

As part of your debate, you'll need to rebut the other side's arguments. It's important to prepare ahead of time to guess what they'll be talking about.

Plan to Fill Your Speech Time

Each speaker at a debate is limited to a certain amount of time. You should plan to use every second of the time that you're allotted. Make sure you practice your talking points so that you know you're within the time frame. If you're short, add in more evidence.

Practice to Build Confidence

It can be scary to take the stage for a debate! **Practicing ahead of time will help you build confidence.** Remember to speak slowly and clearly. Even if your argument is great, it won't matter if no one can understand it.

Final Thoughts

Debate is a great way to hone your public speaking skills and get practice crafting and defending an argument. Use these debate topics if you're searching for a focus for your next debate.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

INSTRUCTIONS: WORK IN PAIRS AND CHOOSE ONE OF THE TOPICS BELOW AND THEN HAVE A DEBATE ABOUT THE CHOSEN TOPIC. GROUP A AGREES AND GROUP B DISAGREES. EACH GROUP MUST WORK INDIVIDUALLY AND SUPPORT IDEAS BY EXPRESSING 3 STRONG AGUMENTS AND USING AS REFERENCE AT LEAST TWO DIFFERENT SOURCES TO BACK UP IDEAS. READING IS NOT ALLOWED. THEREFORE, MAKE SURE YOU EXPLAIN YOUR MAIN IDEAS DURING THE DEBATE.

Debate Topics	VS
1. Is animal testing a justified?	
2. Do video games cause bad behavior in children?	
3. Is it better to date someone attractive and popular or intelligent and smart?	
4. Money is more important than love.	
5. There is no need for the Olympic Games in this century.	
6. Is the legalization of marijuana a good idea?	
7. Working at an office is better than working from home.	
8. College education is extremely essential to be successful nowadays.	
9. Does modern social media make people less socially active?	
10. Are private schools better than public schools?	
11. Is cloning ethically acceptable?	
12. Is artificial intelligence dangerous?	
13. All Costa Rican should have the right to own guns.	
14. Euthanasia should be banned. /ˌjuː.θəˈneɪ.ʒə/	
15. Social media has improved human communication.	
16. Is it better to travel to a new place or revisit familiar destinations for vacations?	

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17. Should the government regulate the content on social media platforms?	
18. Is abortion a woman's right to choose?	
19. Is it beneficial for schools to have a school uniform?	
20. Can Artificial intelligence replace Human intelligence at work?	
21. Do small companies have more harmony?	
22. Are women better managers than men?	
23. Is Technology rising Unemployment rates?	
24. Video games are better than board games.	
25. Modern music is better than classical music.	

LIVEWORKSHEETS