

Debate

Introduction

Debate is a discussion communicating one's argument and views on a subject in front of an audience. It always has two sides – propositional and oppositional. A debater has to take a stand either 'for' or 'against' the given topic, and an opponent questions him. A good debater is one who convinces the audience to agree with his own point of view on the given topic.

Tips and Guidelines:

- Choose your area of debate. Understand the requirement of the topic you are working on.
- You need to choose whether you want to argue 'for' or 'against' the motion. However, being well aware of the content of the opponent is useful and an added benefit.
- Be prepared and coolheaded. Staying on the right track is extremely essential for proving your point well before your opponent. Your written speech has to be very thorough.
- Use your resources well, keeping in mind the various advantages and disadvantages your topic might have. Study well and prepare your introduction; it is important to give the initial views in a precise manner.
- Outline your main points and put emphasis on them in order to make your opponent judge your position as a strong one. Breaking down your topic into smaller points can trigger your memory during the debate.
- You should also prepare yourself to respond to your opponent's arguments. So, it is imperative to study the matter in depth.

A Society Without Biases

Q. The classification of the society in India is based on caste – the word that has been misunderstood over the ages. The classification of society was done on the basis of the profession of people. The issues related to 'caste' have acquired an ugly torn. Write a debate in about 120-150 words that there should not be any biases in the society. (CBSE Sample)

Answer:

Respected Principal, teachers and my dear fellow students. Today I shall speak against the continual propagation of the caste system, arguing that there should not be any biases in the society.

The Indian society was divided into various caste in the olden times based on the profession of people. Even though the families no longer strictly follow the family professions, the caste system continues to maintain strong grasp in the present times. In my point of view, such distinctions do not hold relevance in the modern times where the country follows a democratic government propagating the principles of equality, liberty and fraternity.

Why do we need reservation for backward classes then? Why do we still feel aversion to lower castes or uneasiness with upper castes? A more universal view must be established by the people to break such barriers and live mutually. All must be treated equally as humans. The essence of development is to change according to the times rather than to live according to the age-old systems.

Thank you.

Education of Girl Child is Not a Burden

Q. You are to speak in a debate on the topic 'Education of girl child is not a burden'. Write your speech in favour of the statement in about 120-150 words.

Answer:

Respected judges, teachers and my dear friends. A warm good morning to all of you. Today, I stand before you to express my views in favour of the topic 'Education of a girl child is not a burden'.

It is said that wisdom begins at home. However, education of the woman of the house is still considered a burden by many. This should not be the case since girls are entitled to concession in school fees. Besides, the government offers numerous scholarships to meritorious girls.

Leaders and other social workers should actively support education of girl child and try to alert the poor masses about the importance of the same. It is important for the nation to empower its women as history proves that no civilization has prospered without treating its women well in equation with its men. Our nation's progress is visible through various famous instances of successful professionals, such as Sushma Swaraj, Brinda Karat, Kiran Bedi, etc.

Thank you everyone for listening to my views patiently.

One Can Succeed Without Going to IIT

Q. Write a debate in about 120-150 words on the topic 'One can succeed without going to IIT'. Give your views in favour of the motion.

Answer:

Good morning to the judges, my teachers and fellow students. This morning, I take my position in favour of the given topic. I believe that one can indeed achieve success in life without studying in an IIT.

Though it is good to study at a reputed institution, it does not mean that the students who are not IIT graduates are incompetent. Every student is unique in himself or herself. Often it is what a student is and does that define his or her future. It is more important to have one's concepts clear than a brand tag attached to one's name.

Besides, an IIT education does not guarantee contentment and satisfaction. So one should focus on widening their horizons of mind to the highest point of their imagination rather than on getting admission in a well-known institute.

In my opinion, one should always pursue one's interests.

Thank you all for your kind attention.

Teenagers Should Be Given Freedom

Q. Write a debate in about 120-150 words on 'Teenagers should be given freedom'

Answer:

Good morning everyone. Today I stand against the motion of the topic. In my opinion, teenagers should not be given excess freedom.

Teenage is a very critical stage with a lot of complexities. The teenage years contribute highly in the shaping up of one's personality and character. Competition and comparison may lead to harmful effects on their minds. In such cases, excessive freedom may lead the teenagers to paths unfavourable for their development.

Proper guidance from parents and teachers play a great role in their mental development. It is an age where a person becomes inquisitive about his surroundings. Such inquiries and transitions must be dealt with utmost care and understanding by the parents. A positive and motivating attitude towards teenagers helps in dealing with them in an appropriate way.

Thank you.

Elections in India Are Free and Fair

Q. Write a debate in about 120-150 words against the motion 'Elections in India are free & fair'.

Answer:

Good morning everyone. I totally disagree with the motion that the elections in India are free and fair.

India has a quasi federal government with elected officials at the federal (national), state and local levels. On the national level, the head of the government, the Prime Minister, is elected directly by the people through a general election. Despite so many directives and set guidelines laid down by the Election Commission, elections in India are never free and fair.

The elections in India since Independence have never been flawless and unbiased. Rigging votes have always been a major issue. Ballot counting has its history of scams. Paramilitary forces, even if deployed, find it a hard task controlling the conduct of elections set by the Election Commission. Low literacy level in India has led to the candidates bribing the poor people to ensure their own triumph.

I strongly believe that the system could be made more transparent and bias free with sensible voting by the people.

Thank you.

Cell Phones Are Harmful Even Though Used Widely

Q. Cell phones are harmful even though used widely. You are to speak on this topic in a debate organised by the XYZ club of the city. Write your debate speech in about 120-150 words against the motion.

Answer:

Good afternoon to the Chief Guest, guests and the audience. Today, I stand before you to put across my views against the motion that cell phones are harmful.

Cell phones are an instant means of communication. Besides, its unprecedented mobility has made it one of the most common modes of correspondence in the present times. Cellular phones that place calls worldwide have turned the universe into a global village. Nowadays, many cell phones have useful applications. One such application is maps, which aids in navigation. Besides, the phones usually have attached cameras that help in creating memories. Companies use cellular networks as an advertising medium and a way to reach their consumers. Internet facility on the phones helps us stay connected with the world, anywhere anytime.

I feel that there is no point blaming a device for its harmful effects if we are not careful ourselves in its usage.

Thank you so much for listening to my views patiently.

Preservation of Language

Q. You are to speak in a debate competition organized in your school. The topic is 'Preservation of language'. Write the debate in about 120-150 words expressing your views in favour of the topic.

Answer:

Good morning. Today, I shall speak in favour of the motion 'Preservation of language'.

If a particular language dies, the knowledge and ability to understand the culture of its times also dies. Death of a language also threatens the transmission of teachings, customs, oral traditions and other inherited knowledge. Urbanisation is a major cause of extinction of any particular language. People today are resorting to English, the universal language, and thus, are forgetting their respective mother tongue.

Political and military turmoil can also endanger a language. One way to preserve a language is to encourage the younger generations to speak the language as they grow up. If the teaching process continues, a language can be saved from its imminent death. The internet can be used to raise awareness about the issues of language extinction and language preservation.

One's identity is intricately linked to one's language; loss of the latter is the loss one's cultural heritage, loss of a part of oneself.

Thank you.

Reality Shows Are a Boon

Q. Reality shows have taken over our lives in a big way. People are of different opinions on the impact of such shows. Write a debate in about 120-150 words about how reality shows are a boon.

Answer:

Good morning to all.

Reality shows give chance to everyone and helps in boosting self confidence. They are public forums for the benefit of the masses. These shows bring something new, reducing monotony in the lives of the television viewers. They also help in increasing

the TRP which brings in profit to the producers. Common people get to know better about people from different walks of life. The system of voting encourages public participation in recognising talents.

Reality shows are open to everybody irrespective of one's academic achievements, family and economic background, etc. Cross-regional bonding improves at such shows. This in turn helps in cultural and social integration. It breaks the barriers created in the society due to conservatism.

Thus, I believe that reality shows act as a boon in such cases.

Thank you.

Intrusion of Media in the Lives of Celebrities

Q. Write a debate in about 120-150 words on 'Intrusion of media in the lives of celebrities'.

Answer:

Good afternoon to the honourable guests and the audience. Today I take my stand here to speak for the motion 'Media intrudes too much in the lives of celebrities'.

The world of fashion, business, etc. is endlessly inspired by mass media. The morning newspaper is not complete without new information about the public figures and their private lives. Media is responsible for the propagation of the terminology 'Famous for being famous', which refers to someone who attains celebrity status for no particular identifiable reason. The mental status of the concerned person should be considered when his or her most private and personal secrets or information are revealed.

The main motive of media is to gain demand, but that does not grant them permission to pry into others' lives. In my opinion, no one has the right to interfere in someone's personal space, whether that someone is a celebrity or a common man.

Thank you.

Man is a Bundle of Emotions

Q. Write a debate in about 120-150 words on 'Man is a bundle of emotions'.

Answer:

Good evening. I stand before you to support the view that man is a bundle of emotions.

Man is the only being that has the ability to understand, comprehend and judge. This fact has made him a bundle of emotions and sentiments. The four basic emotions a person possesses are sadness, happiness, anger and fear. These emotions may be negative or positive. Negative emotions are unhealthy and they lead to isolation, depression and alienation from the society. On the contrary, positive emotions send positive vibes; they assure success in personal tasks as well as relationships.

Hidden or expressed, man always possesses some kind of emotions. Some people believe that displaying their emotions in front others it is a sign of vulnerability, while some find solace by sharing their emotions with others. How a person deals with his personal emotions describes his overall personality.

Thank you all for your kind attention.