

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.

Computers Are Important for Children

Q. Write a debate in about 120-150 words on the topic 'Computers are important for children'. Given your opinions in favour of the statement.

Answer:

A good afternoon to or teachers and my fellow students. The topic for this debate is that computers are important for children. I shall express my views in favour of the motion.

Today, computers have evolved to become not only a help, but also a good friend. Computers let us convert raw data into meaningful information. It aids in letting us do a particular work in a matter of minutes, something that took our forefathers hours to complete. Children can seek help from various educational websites and sources for academic help. Computer games have proved to be a great source of entertainment. Social networking sites make kids socially active.

The use of computers is almost an integral part of our day-to-day lives. I think schools should make it a point to introduce computers to students from an early age.

Thank you.

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.

School Should Focus on Academic Activities and Not on Extra-curricular Activities

Q. Write a debate in about 120-150 words against the motion 'School should focus on academic activities and not on extra-curricular activities'.

Answer:

Good morning teachers and my dear fellow students. I fail to comprehend the viewpoint of my opponent that schools should concentrate only on the academics.

A school is responsible for the overall development of a child. This includes not only the academics but also the personality, health, etc. of the students. Co-curricular activities give the students practical education and prepare them for the future. Students whose only experience of school is one of rigid academic study may not be able to put to practice what they have learnt. If the co-curriculum is given an equal importance in the student's everyday schedule, it will lead to improvement in the student's ability to grasp things as a whole. Such students will have received an all-round education.

In my opinion, schools should give importance to extracurricular activities as well rather than focusing on the academics only.

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.

Education is Important for the Overall Development of a Person

Q. You are Priyanka/Prashant. You are to speak in a debate organized by your school. The given topic is 'Education is important for the overall development of a person'. Write a debate in about 120-150 words expressing your opinions in favour of the motion.

Answer:

Respected judges, Principal, teachers and dear friends. I am Prashant/Priyanka and I am here to speak in favour of the motion 'Education is important for the overall development of a nation'.

Education is the solution to all types of problems. It is education that helps a person to live a better and respectable life. Education is one of the important factors which formulate the character of a person. It is a productive and beneficial factor in a person's life. An individual is made up of different entities. Education brings about the integration of these separate entities. A man becomes a human being in the real sense when he is transformed from a living being into a human being. Education is not just a matter of training the mind.

Training makes for efficiency, but it does not bring about completeness. Knowledge and efficiency are necessary, which are brought up by education.

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.

Vegetarianism: Need of the Hour

Q. Write a debate in about 120-150 words on the topic 'Vegetarianism: Need of the hour'.

Answer:

Good afternoon honourable judges, teachers and my dear friends.

Are you aware of the fact that more than 100,000 cows are slaughtered every day in the United States? It is sad that people kill so many animals to satisfy their own greed. Vegetarianism is certainly a better option. Life span of vegetarians is longer and they live healthier too because they develop a better immune system. Heart and kidney related health issues, diabetes etc. may be treated well if one follows a vegetarian diet. Maintaining weight is also easier when one is a vegetarian.

I would take this opportunity to encourage each and every one of you to choose vegetarianism, a better way of life.

Thank you for your kind attention.