

ASSIGNMENT 3: DEBATE

Year 10 English: Persuasive Writing

Learning Intentions: *Students are familiar with the format and structure of a formal debate. Students can select and order information to reflect a range of viewpoints, considering both sides of a contentious issue. Students understand how rhetorical devices are used to persuade, and how to strengthen an argument using examples and evidence. Students can use critical thinking skills to prepare a cohesive rebuttal. Students can use effective speaking skills when presenting.*

For this assignment, you will be divided into teams and given a topic at random. Within your teams, you will research and consolidate your main arguments and decide who will present which points. Write your speech using the correct format (template provided) and prepare to rebut the opposing team by creating a list of points they may raise and what to say in response.

Step 1: Plan & Research

- Define your topic – look up the meanings of key words, specify what is meant by any vague or unclear phrases, write what you understand this to mean in simple terms.
- Research the topic. Brainstorm arguments & consolidate 4 main points.
- Prepare a list of rebuttals. Research the other side of the topic, predict what the opposite team's main arguments will be, and plan what you could say in response.
- Allocate positions in your team – decide who will cover which points and which order you will speak in. This is your TEAM SPLIT.

Step 2: Write the scripts for each speaker

- Make sure each speech is structured correctly and contains all the correct components for their position (templates on haiku)
- Include persuasive rhetorical devices to make your speeches more convincing
- Make sure your main points are in PEEL format – Point, Evidence, Elaboration, Link

Step 3: Practice

- Practice reading your speeches aloud to each other within your teams. Annotate, marking places to speed up or slow down, words to emphasise etc.
- Practice using good speaking skills (eye contact, pacing, emphasis, tone)
- Time yourself to make sure you won't go overtime (5 minutes)
- DON'T let the opposition gain an advantage by overhearing your arguments!

DEBATE: MARKING RUBRIC

Criteria	A	B	C	D
<p>Structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech was structured correctly with required components for debating position • Point paragraphs were structured correctly using PEEL format 				
<p>Teamwork, Planning & Debating Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked effectively with team to plan & write debate • Listened respectfully to other people's debates • Worked as a team to plan rebuttals effectively • Rebuttals were structured correctly (state opposing point, say why it's wrong, counter with own point) 				
<p>Persuasive Techniques:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech used persuasive devices (e.g. direct address, rhetorical questions, hyperbole, similes & metaphors, emotive language, pathos/ethos/logos) • Speech used at least one SOPHISTICATED persuasive device e.g. anaphora, antimetabole, hypophora 				
<p>Language & Editing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used formal language appropriate for a debate • Used examples, quotes, facts & statistics to back up points • Script was edited/proofread with no mistakes in spelling, grammar, and punctuation 				
<p>Speaking & Presenting Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used emphasis, expression, and pauses to be persuasive when speaking • Used eye contact • Spoke clearly, slowly & at a good volume 				