

Rubric for Arguments and Debates

	1	2	3	4
Text Structure				
Thesis	No clear opening statement presented.	Some attempt to make an opening statement.	Opening statement made.	Opening statement made very clear to audience.
State position	No clear position stated.	Some attempt to state position made.	Position of speaker stated.	Position of speaker explicitly stated with appropriate language used.
Provide supporting evidence	No supporting evidence.	Evidence provided with no support.	Evidence provided with some support.	Series of detailed arguments made with supporting evidence.
Present alternative position	No alternative position presented.	Alternative position presented with no support.	Alternative position presented with some support.	Alternative position explicitly stated with supporting evidence.
Summary argument	No summary argument.	Some attempt made at summary argument.	Summary argument evident but without logical approach.	Explicit and logical summary of points made to conclude.
Language				
Language features associated with the text type	Limited connectives and verbs used with no facts and statistics.	Some connectives and verbs used with limited facts and statistics.	A range of connectives and verbs used with some facts and statistics.	Logical connectives, powerful verbs, facts and statistics used accurately throughout.
Topic specific vocabulary	No technical vocabulary used.	Some attempts to use technical vocabulary and emotive language.	Technical vocabulary used with evidence of research done. Some attempts to use emotive language.	Technical vocabulary, evidence from experts and emotive language used accurately throughout.
Speaking and Listening Skills				
Broad rules that govern social interaction	Poor turn taking. Did not hold the floor.	Some attempt to take turns during argument. Did not successfully hold the floor when given the opportunity.	Took turns appropriately for the most part and managed to hold the floor for a time.	Took turns and interjected appropriately throughout. Held the floor effectively receiving attention when stating position.
Use of voice	Poor projection. Mumbled speech without clear pronunciation. Audience disengaged.	Some projection with most words pronounced accurately.	Good projection and pronunciation. Delivery needs work.	Smooth, effective delivery with clear pronunciation and projection throughout. Audience engaged.
Non-verbal behaviours	Poor eye contact with audience. Stiff presentation with no gesture. Over reliant on speaking cues.	Some attempts at eye contact made. Repetition of gesture throughout. Speaker used some appropriate movements and attempted to use speaking aids appropriately.	Speaker had good posture and attempted to use speaking aids appropriately.	Sustained eye contact with audience, appropriate repair and gesture used throughout. Appeared relaxed, using comfortable movement and posture with appropriate use of speaking aids.

