

## Formal Debates

The purpose of debating and developing arguments is to persuade an audience to accept a particular point of view. Debates provide pupils with practice in giving and justifying opinions. Pupils will be required to research topics to provide relevant information to support their point of view. Debates can be used for exploring issues and different points of view such as topics from literature being studied in class or local concerns such as pollution, phone masts and current affairs

Structure	Infants	1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Introduction</b>			
<b>Greeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good morning/afternoon</li> <li>Hello everybody</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hello ladies and gentlemen</li> <li>You are all very welcome to .....</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good afternoon esteemed guests</li> <li>Welcome to today's .....</li> <li>I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to .....</li> <li>On behalf of _____ I would like to welcome you to .....</li> <li>Chairperson, adjudicators and fellow debaters...</li> </ul>
<b>Thesis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My name is _____ and today I will talk about .....</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I am ..... and today I would like to talk to you about.....</li> <li>The topic for today's debate is....</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I'd like to start by introducing myself. My name is _____ I am _____ and I wish to talk to you about .....</li> <li>Today we are proposing/opposing the motion...</li> <li>The topic for today's debate is.....</li> <li>The motion being debated today is....</li> </ul>
<b>State position</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I think/I don't think</li> <li>Yes/No</li> <li>I like/I don't like</li> <li>I agree/disagree</li> <li>My favourite</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I have mixed feelings</li> <li>I prefer</li> <li>I strongly agree/disagree</li> <li>In my opinion</li> <li>I believe</li> <li>I feel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I strongly/thoroughly/firmly believe</li> <li>I agree/disagree that</li> <li>Firstly, secondly, next</li> <li>I would like to start off by saying...</li> <li>I propose the following....</li> <li>The problem with _____ is....</li> <li>To begin</li> <li>In my opinion....</li> </ul>
<b>Provide supporting evidence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Because</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For instance</li> <li>Unless</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is believed/widely believed that</li> <li>It has been found/discovered/proven</li> <li>On one hand/other hand</li> <li>Consider the following</li> <li>To further illustrate my point</li> <li>To reinforce my point</li> <li>Furthermore</li> <li>In fact</li> <li>As with</li> <li>Likewise</li> <li>Owing to</li> <li>Equally</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significantly</li> <li>• Indeed</li> <li>• In particular</li> <li>• For instance</li> <li>• An example of this can be found...</li> <li>• In other words...</li> <li>• That is to say...</li> <li>• What is important to remember...</li> <li>• I'd like to emphasise....</li> <li>• I like to stress the importance of...</li> <li>• I would like to highlight....</li> <li>• Here I'd like to refer to....</li> <li>• As you may well know....</li> <li>• As you are probably already aware.....</li> </ul>
<b>Present alternative position</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can be found.....</li> <li>• For example</li> <li>• However/although</li> <li>• Except</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Similarly, conversely</li> <li>• Alternatively</li> <li>• In the case of</li> <li>• Others believe...</li> <li>• According to....</li> <li>• Although others believe....</li> <li>• Regardless of....</li> <li>• Contrary to....</li> <li>• _____ stated that..... however....</li> </ul>
<b>Conclusion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank you for listening</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank you for your attention</li> <li>• To summarise....</li> <li>• In conclusion....</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Therefore</li> <li>• Because of that</li> <li>• Overall</li> <li>• In conclusion</li> <li>• In summary</li> <li>• Consequently</li> <li>• As I have already said earlier...</li> <li>• As previously stated...</li> <li>• I'd like to summarize/sum up</li> <li>• Let me summarise by saying...</li> <li>• So that concludes my ....</li> <li>• At this stage I would like to run through/over the main points...</li> <li>• So, as we have seen today....</li> <li>• In conclusion I would like to say that...</li> <li>• My final comments concern...</li> <li>• I would like to finish by reminding everyone that...</li> <li>• I am confident that you will all agree that .....</li> </ul>