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What is Debate Basics

Master the Art of Debate: Speak, Listen, Persuade!

DEFINITION

Debate is a structured discussion where people argue different sides of a topic. It helps develop critical thinking and communication skills.

KEY CONCEPTS

Argument

An argument is a statement that supports a position or opinion in a debate.

Counterargument

A counterargument is a response to an argument that challenges its validity.

Rebuttal

A rebuttal is a reply to a counterargument, defending the original argument.

Structure

Debates typically follow a format with opening statements, arguments, rebuttals, and closing statements.

Research

Effective debaters research their topic to provide evidence and support their arguments.

EXAMPLES

- Arguing for school uniforms vs. against school uniforms.
- Debating whether technology improves education or distracts from it.
- Discussing the benefits of renewable energy vs. fossil fuels.

MEMORY TIPS

- ★ Remember 'A-C-R' for Argument, Counterargument, Rebuttal.
- ★ Use the acronym 'D-E-B-A-T-E' to recall key steps: Define, Explain, Build, Argue, Tackle, End.
- ★ Visualize a courtroom to remember the structure of presenting and defending arguments.

COMMON MISTAKES

- ✗ Failing to listen to the opposing side's arguments.
- ✗ Not providing enough evidence to support claims.
- ✗ Getting emotional instead of staying logical and respectful.

QUICK RECAP

Debate is a way to discuss and argue different viewpoints on a topic. Remember the structure: present arguments, counterarguments, and rebuttals. Practice active listening and research to strengthen your points.