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What is Debate Basics

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

DEFINITION

Debate is a structured discussion where participants argue opposing viewpoints. It helps develop critical thinking and public speaking skills.

KEY CONCEPTS

Argument Structure

An argument consists of a claim, evidence, and reasoning to support it.

Rebuttal

A rebuttal is a response to counter an opposing argument and strengthen your position.

Research Skills

Effective debaters gather facts and statistics to back up their arguments.

Public Speaking

Debate requires clear and confident speaking to persuade the audience.

Listening Skills

Good debaters listen carefully to opponents to understand and respond effectively.

EXAMPLES

- Arguing for or against school uniforms in a debate.
- Debating whether technology improves education.
- Discussing the benefits of recycling versus waste disposal.

MEMORY TIPS

- ★ Use the acronym 'A.R.E.' for Argument, Rebuttal, Evidence.
- ★ Visualize a courtroom to remember the structure of a debate.
- ★ Think of debate as a game of chess: plan your moves ahead.

COMMON MISTAKES

- ✗ Failing to research and support arguments with evidence.
- ✗ Interrupting opponents instead of listening.
- ✗ Being overly emotional instead of staying logical.

QUICK RECAP

Debate is a formal discussion where opposing sides present arguments. Focus on structure, research, and effective communication to succeed.