

## /AGRUPAMENTO DE ESCOLAS AGUALVA MIRA SINTRA EB Dr. António Torrado / EB D. Domingos Jardo / ES Matias Aires

# PLATAFORMA MOODLE INGLÊS

## **HOW TO PREPARE FOR A DEBATE**

Did your teacher ask you to prepare for a debate and you don't know how and what to do? Don't panic, here are some hints which will help you prepare for a discussion.

#### What is a debate?

A debate is a process when one group of students provides their arguments for a specific statement and another group provides arguments against it. Both sides have different goals and try to prove that they are right in their statements.

To win and have better arguments than your opponents, you should prepare well for such a discussion. Here you will find out a few tips on how to get ready for it, what you need to do before starting, and how to get help with it.

If you are going to understand how to prepare for a debate, you should start with choosing a team leader. Then, you should analyse the topic from different sides and discuss the speech with your team to get the best results.

To make it more interesting, teams are able to use exciting topics that bring a lot of fun. You should choose the best debate topics to make your discussion more debatable. It helps you to involve more members and make them express their thoughts.

### List of hints of how to prepare for a debate

- **1. Work together.** When playing in the teams, it is always recommended to cooperate and speak as much as needed. If the members of your team have common goals, each of you should be able to make their investment into the result. If you don't know how to prepare for a class debate, here you will learn about it. Your team should also get the necessary information and start working on your topic, finding arguments, and gathering evidence.
- **2. Write individual speeches**. Before discussing anything together, each speaker should have time to brainstorm. They will write their own list of arguments and evidence. It helps everyone to concentrate and find as many arguments you can find when speaking with others. Then, you have to discuss all the speeches collectively and consider which arguments are the most appropriate for your discussion. Each member of the team should have an opportunity to state their position.
- **3**. **Analyse the evidence.** You have to write a speech based on facts, and if your arguments are not supported by evidence, you should not use them. That is why it is necessary to read your evidence before using it to prove your position. To know how to prepare for a debate competition, you should learn to find evidence. Access online databases, necessary books, and other resources that may contain information on your topic.
- **4. Arguments for both sides**. If you are going to present arguments against a specific statement, it doesn't mean that you shouldn't find arguments in support of this statement. You have to be ready for the arguments from your opponent so try to foresee what they could

tell you. By doing it, you become prepared for comments from your opponents. If you don't know how to do it well and how to find evidence for both sides, get debate help from people with experience.

**5.Prepare your speeches.** If you haven't taken part in such discussions before, it would be difficult for you to start, that is why, if you prepare them well, your presentation will help you win. If everyone from your team creates their own speech and then you compile them, it will be a good start.