

## **CLIL Lesson Plan: Debate – Structured Argumentation**

**Teacher:** Dr. B. Spoorthi

**Grade Level:** B.Tech 1st Year – CSE/BT/MMEI

**Course:** English for Technical Communication

**Subject:** Debate & Critical Thinking

**Duration:** 120 minutes

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### **Objectives:**

#### **Content Objective:**

- By the end of this lesson, students will understand the principles of structured debate and argumentation.

#### **Language Objective:**

- By the end of this lesson, students will be able to articulate their viewpoints effectively using persuasive language, logical reasoning, and counterarguments.
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### **Materials:**

- Projector and screen
  - Handouts on debate rules and argument structuring
  - List of debate topics
  - Timer for tracking speaking turns
  - Notebooks or digital devices for note-taking
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### **Preparation:**

- Prepare a presentation explaining debate formats, structure, and rules.
  - Create a handout outlining key debate strategies and examples.
  - Arrange classroom seating to facilitate team discussions and debate rounds.
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## Procedure:

### 1. Introduction & Instructions (20 minutes)

- Begin with a discussion on the importance of debate in academic and professional life.
- Explain key debating techniques such as logical reasoning, evidence-based argumentation, and rebuttals.
- Provide students with a handout summarizing these techniques.
- Introduce the activity: students will engage in a structured debate on assigned topics.

### 2. Preparation & Research (30 minutes)

- Divide students into small groups and assign each group a debate topic.
- Topics include:
  - The ethical implications of Artificial Intelligence.
  - The impact of technology on the environment.
  - The importance of gender diversity in engineering.
- Each group designates speakers for opening arguments, rebuttals, and conclusions.
- Encourage students to research, gather supporting evidence, and outline their arguments.

### 3. Debate Rounds (60 minutes)

- Each team presents their arguments in a structured format:
    - **Opening Statements (2-3 minutes per team)** – Introduction of stance and key points.
    - **Rebuttals (3-5 minutes per team)** – Counterarguments addressing the opposing team's points.
    - **Conclusion (2 minutes per team)** – Final summary reinforcing their stance.
  - Allow audience members to ask questions and challenge points.
  - Encourage constructive discussion and respectful disagreements.
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### Conclusion (10 minutes)

- Summarize key takeaways from the debate.
  - Ask students to reflect on their learning, strengths, and areas for improvement.
  - Assign a short written reflection on how debate skills can be applied in professional and academic settings.
  - Thank students for their participation.
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## Assessment:

- Evaluation of students' debating skills based on clarity, logical reasoning, and evidence.
  - Observation of participation and engagement during preparation and debate rounds.
  - Review of students' written reflections to assess their understanding of argumentation techniques.
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### **Homework/Extension:**

- Assign students to watch a professional debate and analyze the techniques used.
  - Encourage students to research another debate topic and prepare arguments for future discussions.
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**Note:** This CLIL lesson plan integrates structured debating skills with critical thinking, preparing engineering students to articulate and defend their viewpoints effectively in professional and academic discussions.