

For the Teacher:

Parents and Children Debate Activity

A A A A A A A A A A

B B B B B B B B B B

C C C C C C C C C C

Objective	Students will be able to give their opinions (speaking) about parent/child relationships.
Functional Language <i>Students will need</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● It is true that...● Parents should...● Children should...● First of all...● Also...● Finally...● In conclusion...● It is important that...● sentence starters for giving opinions: “I think... because...” or “I believe that... because...”

Vocabulary <i>Students will need</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vocabulary of relationships: <i>parent, child, sibling, family, equal, unfair, goals, interests, love, care, respect, understand, obey, raise, university, major, study, plan, job, career, approve, marry, partner, husband, wife, girlfriend, boyfriend, date</i>
Grammar <i>Students will need</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complex sentences: <i>subject + verb + because + subject + verb</i> <p><i>Example: Children should respect parents because parents are wise.</i></p>
Assessment <i>Teachers can check for success by</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listening to each group state their opinion and explain their reasons for their opinion.
Instructions	<p>Divide the class into three groups for the first debate: A, B and C.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group A: Argues 'pro' (yes) on the issue • Group B: Argues 'nay' (no) on the issue

- Group C: Listens and determines who the winner of the debate is

Assign one of the topics below:

- 1) Parents should be able to decide what their children study at the university.

OR

- 2) Children should be able to marry who they wish even if their parents do not approve.

OR

- 3) Parents should treat all their children equally without exceptions.

Once you assign the topic, tell Group A that they have to argue that this statement is correct/true no matter how they really feel about it. Tell Group B that they have to argue that the statement is NOT true or correct no matter how they feel about it. Tell Group C that they need to prepare themselves to be good listeners by

thinking about the kinds of arguments both sides might make and thinking about the vocabulary they might use.

Give the appropriate amount of time to the three groups to prepare. This will depend on your students.

When the debate starts, have Group A sit at the front on the left side, facing Group C. Have Group B sit at the front on the right side, facing group C.

Group A goes first, with each group member saying a little in English to support their ideas the statement is correct. Then, Group B goes and does the same to show why it is not correct. Then, Group C talks with each other to decide who had the strongest argument and why. They tell the whole class who the winner of the debate is.

	<p>Repeat two more times, with each group of students getting a chance to be part of the 'pro', part of the 'nay' and part of the listening audience with the other topics.</p>
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