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| Thesis | Teachers **should not** carry guns in high school. |
| Opposition & Refutation | **Some opponents** say teachers *should* carry guns because armed teachers can helpdefend against an emergency or a shooter. **However**, teachers go to college to learn how to become educators not soldiers |
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| Thesis | Mental health should be prioritized in schools. |
| Opposition & Refutation | **Those** **opposed** suggest that school is meant for students to learn and study. **While** school is designed for learning, educating students about mental health can help reduce depression and suicide. |
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| Thesis | Soccer players should play for the country they were born or have a direct relationship with. |
| Opposition & Refutation | **Contrary to this claim**, changing citizenship and competing for another country this is not their birth country is very common, and it is the player’s right to do so. **However,** some athletes were forced to change their nationality due to political reasons. |
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| Thesis | Housework and decision-making should be shared equally between men and women in the Democratic Republic of Congo. |
| Opposition & Refutation | **Opponents claim** that housework should not be shared equally because… **Despite this claim**, gender equality is a human right, so housework and decision-making needs to be equitable as well. |
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| Thesis | Social media companies should regulate public opinions. |
| Opposition & Refutation | **Opponents claim** that in a free society, people have freedom of speech, which is a right to express their opinions on any platform necessary. **Despite this claim**, the spreading of diverse opinions leads to information almost free from bias. |
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| Thesis | Culture appreciation must require cultural knowledge, values, and respect to prevent commodification. |
| Opposition & Refutation | **Opponents may claim** that knowledge and respect are not needed to appreciate culture. **Despite this claim,** appreciation for another’s culture, i.e., in dress or hairstyle, requires a certain level of knowledge and appreciation. |
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| Thesis | Men and women should share house chores. |
| Opposition & Refutation | **Opponents may argue** that male partners must work to provide income for and sustain the family. **While that may be true in some families,** each family can adapt and find a balance among all their responsibilities. |
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| Thesis | The government in (country X) should provide free products for menstruation. |
| Opposition & Refutation | **Opponents argue** that the government cannot provide extra spending on free products for menstruation because it will bring a serious economic impact. **Despite the economic impact**, the government needs to provide period products especially for those who are in poverty. |
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| Thesis | The wage gap between male and female soccer players in the World Cup is reasonable considering the difference in the net income that FIFA receives in these events. |
| Opposition & Refutation | Nothing was on the card ☹ |
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| Thesis | Underage employment should be legal (in Country X). |
| Opposition & Refutation | **Some opponents may argue** that there are laws that prohibit child labor. **Despite this**, in certain situations disabled parents may need their children to work to help support the family. |
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| Thesis | The Chinese college admission policy should focus on equality instead of diversity. |
| Opposition & Refutation | **Although critics argue** that a student’s ability to succeed should not depend on one test score, focusing on extracurricular activities **may not be fair** for families who do not have adequate resources. |
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| Thesis | Bullfighting should be illegal because killing animals as a spectacle is not culture, but torture. |
| Opposition & Refutation | **While some may claim** that bullfighting should be protected because it is a traditional part of culture, the **simple reason of tradition is not strong enough** to maintain an event that brutally kills animals. |
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|  | School uniforms have more impact on students’ health and social behaviors than educational improvement. |
|  | **Opponents argue** that wearing school uniforms reduces comparison among students. **Despite this opposition**, comparisons still exist even when students wear uniforms. |

| **Introduction** | **That …**  **(What do critics claim?)** | **However, But, Despite …**  **(What do you say in response?)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| While some may claim …  Although critics argue …  Those opposed suggest …  Some opponents claim …  Those critical of the idea argue … |  |  |
| Some opponents claim … | that nutritional losses from such land use do not fully translate into losses of human-available nutrients. | While this objection may be correct, it does not address the fact that natural carbon sinks are being destroyed to increase agricultural land and, therefore, increase greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere. |