

Final: Debate and Group Conversation

Debates are an excellent way to practice and test your listening and speaking abilities. Not only do you have to listen to your opponent, but also you need to respond with a rebuttal.

There will be 8 teams, which means there will be 4 debates.

You may talk with your opposing team and together **choose a resolution**, which needs to be approved by the teacher.

Example resolutions:

- This house believes globalization is detrimental to the human race.
- This house believes that Internet censorship is essential to public order.
- This house believes that Katy Perry is the best female singer of all time.
- This house believes that the government has not taken adequate steps to alleviate the air pollution in Beijing.
- This house believes that the Chinese education system needs to be reformed.

Debates will take place on Monday, December 23rd, Tuesday, December 24th, and Wednesday, December 25th.

Each group member must speak for 1 minute (2 minutes maximum).

The rest of the class will act as judges and choose a winner for each debate. The winning team will get extra credit.

Instructions for preparing for the debates:

1. Choose a resolution with your team and your opposing team.
2. Decide if your team will support the resolution or be against the resolution.
3. Get approval from the teacher for your resolution.
4. Meet with your team to discuss the strong reasons you have for/against your resolution.
5. Do some research; find some statistics to support your argument.
6. Brainstorm what the opposing team will argue so that you may think of a rebuttal ahead of time.
7. Practice debating with your team.

After the debates, I will have one-on-four conversations with every group (in the order that your group debated) for about 5 minutes. I will ask questions about the debates as well as content from the whole course.