

ディベート

コミュニケーション能力を育成する活動の一つに、ディベートがある。「制服」というテーマを例に、その考え方・進め方等を以下に提示する。

DEBATE

A debate is an organized argument or contest of ideas in which the participants discuss a topic from two opposing sides.

For example: School uniforms

School uniforms are an important part of a student's education.

Those who agree with this statement or idea are the "Pro" side.

Those who will not agree with this statement or idea are the "Con" side.

Each side will show in an organized and clever way why they believe to have the right answers. They will use examples to support their ideas while working towards a conclusion.

School uniforms

Pro: School uniforms make all students look alike. Poor and rich students look alike. This makes it easier for all to get along together and concentrate on their studies.

Con: School uniforms don't allow students to be individuals. They restrict students from expressing themselves. They are also hot in the summer and they don't protect against the cold in the winter; therefore it is not easy to get along together or concentrate on studying.

Pro: Uniform give students a sense of belonging to a certain school.

Con: Students don't need uniforms to feel like they belong.

Pro: Uniforms are easy and cheap to clean.

Con: Uniforms are expensive to buy and they wear out fast.

The aim of a debate is to convince the opposition that you are right.

When the two sides agree on the subject or when one side's arguments are more convincing than the other side that is when the debate comes to a close.

In a formal debate, a mediator (a person that has not agreed with the Pro or the Con) will decide who the winner should be.

In an informal debate the argument can continue until the time when one side gives up. In Europe and America people debate naturally every day on all types of topic and it is often misunderstood as an unorganized fight.

How to win a debate!

*Understand the topic you are debating.

*Ask yourself the following questions:

- (1) Who are the people the debate is about and who is presenting the argument?
- (2) What is the debate about?
- (3) Where did the incident discussed take place?
- (4) When did the incident discussed take place?
- (5) Why did the incident happen and why are you debating about it?
- (6) How did the incident happen?

Once you understand these questions you will be able to build your argument in a logical way.

Why is learning to debate important?

Learning to debate is important because:

- (1) It teaches people to form opinions.
- (2) It teaches people to understand other people's opinions.
- (3) It teaches people to tolerate and accept other peoples' opinions.
- (4) It teaches people more about the subject being discussed.

If you are a person who *understands*, *tolerates* and *accepts* then you can:

- A) Have a better relationship with your friends, your neighbors, other countries and the world you live in.
- B) Live your life as a much more intelligent and caring person.