

Rubric for Debates

A 5-point scale

5 The Exceptional Debate

This debate is truly exceptional in every way. The student has gone well beyond the requirements and has done additional research outside of the requirements. The thesis statement is clearly presented and well developed. The thesis is supported with exceptional arguments and deals with the most significant issues in the debate. Arguments are thoroughly supported with a significant amount of relevant evidence and data based in primary research. The student demonstrates thorough mastery of the topic in the rebuttal and question and answer period. The arguments are persuasive enough to impact the voting outcome. The bibliography exceeds the minimum requirements and is properly formatted. The debate is presented on time.

4 The Strong Debate

This debate is very effective and is above average in every way. The student meets all the requirements and, in fact, may have exceeded some. The thesis statement is clear and is supported with relevant evidence and data. The student demonstrates that the student understands the topic in the rebuttal and question and answer period. The arguments may/may not be persuasive enough to impact the voting outcome. The bibliography meets or exceeds the requirements and is properly formatted. The debate is presented on time.

3 The Standard Debate

This debate meets all the requirements, but no additional or extra work is reflected. The thesis statement is discernable and is somewhat supported with evidence and data. The student demonstrates a cursory understanding of the topic in the rebuttal and question and answer period. The arguments may/may not be persuasive enough to impact the voting outcome. The bibliography meets the requirements and is properly formatted. The debate may/may not be presented on time.

2 The Developing Debate

This debate is below average. The thesis may merely restate the prompt. The thesis is supported with simplistic arguments. There is not a significant amount of evidence or data to support the thesis. The student does not reflect a good understanding of the topic during the rebuttal and question and answer period. The arguments are not persuasive enough to impact the voting outcome. The bibliography may/may not meet the requirement or be properly formatted. The debate may/may not be presented on time.

1 Limited Debate

This debate is incomplete or the quality is unacceptable. The thesis simply restates the prompt. The thesis is not supported with relevant evidence or data, or contradicts the thesis, or is inaccurate. The student does not reflect an understanding of the topic during most of the debate. The arguments are not persuasive. The bibliography does not meet the requirements and is not properly formatted. The debate may/may not be on time. The debate needs revision and will require further development for proper credit.

0 No Debate