

Module 1 – Lesson 6

Debate Rules

- **Avoid put-downs...debate the POINT, not the PERSON.**
- **Raise your hand to speak if it is not your turn to talk.**
- **Avoid interrupting the speaker.**
- **Avoid talking or whispering while someone else is speaking.**
- **Times allotted for each segment of the debate:**
 - **Opening statements for both sides = 3 minutes.**
 - **Presenting arguments for both sides = 3 minutes.**
 - **Planning the rebuttal = 3 minutes.**
 - **Rebuttal = 2 minutes.**
 - **Closing statements for both sides = 3 minutes each.**

Debate Roles and Process

Opening Statement Presenter: This person gathers the main points to be placed in an introductory statement. This person does not give very specific information, but simply says “This is true because of A, B, and C.”

Topic Presenters: This team of people presents the main arguments for the team. Each presenter gives details that prove A, B, and C.

Rebuttal Presenters: This team responds to the arguments of the other team. These people take notes as the other team is presenting, and they respond to every argument.

Closing Statement Presenter: This person presents the closing arguments for the team. This person repeats the main idea.