



12.5 Debate Skits

This activity reinforces basic debate concepts. Students express their knowledge of a particular debate concept through skits.

Time Allotment

Approximately one class period. Potentially longer.

Objectives

By the end of this activity, students will:

- develop skills in expressing complex ideas in their own words.
- build confidence in public speaking.

Method

Divide the class into small groups. Assign each group a debate topic or theme and tell them to construct a short skit (5 minutes or less) from that theme.

Presentation topics might be anything from the concept of inherency to the implementation of a particular plan to the impact scenario of a particular disadvantage. Let students know that they can create the skit with any scene or characters that they want, so long as it does a thorough and engaging job introducing the topic.

When students are designing their skit, there should be a period of creativity. While you want students to come up with new interpretations of debate concepts, it is important that you stay involved, encouraging each group and making sure that all groups are on task, brainstorming and writing down ideas. Additionally, you should be available to clarify ideas about the topics of presentation.

After each group is finished planning their skit, have every group perform for the other members of the class.