

## **Introduction to Debate Lesson Plans**

### **Day 1: The Clash**

- 1) Introduce the idea of debate, why we're doing it, etc.
- 2) Basic terms of debate (Affirmative, Constructive, Debate, Negative, Resolution, Rebuttal, Status Quo, Clash)
- 3) Give sample resolutions. Describe resolutions. Students develop resolutions and write them on the board. Examine together. Identify what kind of resolution each one is.
- 4) Activities

Activity 1: Teacher selects a resolution from the board. In pairs, affirmative speaks for 30 seconds, then Negative speaks for 30 seconds.

Activity 2: Same as above, only now the Affirmative speaks for 1 minute and the negative speaks for 30 seconds.

### **Day 2: Speeches**

- 1) Quiz on terms
- 2) Introduction to speeches and flowsheets. Keep a flowsheet while listening to a sample constructive speech. Discuss.
- 3) Review the speech templates. Terms: definitions and resolutions.
- 4) Activities:

Activity 1: Work with partner. One writes an Affirmative and one writes a Negative Constructive speech on a resolution given by teacher (from day 1 class?). 4-5 speeches are delivered and class keeps a flowsheet. Discuss points of refutation.

Activity 2: Set teams for tomorrow's debates: an Affirmative and a Negative for each resolution. Tomorrow will be abbreviated discussion style debate (all times cut in half). Roles:

"Director" – keeps the team on task and makes sure the team is ready to follow the rules (see Debate manual)

"Secretary" – makes copies, takes notes, "gopher"

"Librarian" – responsible for research or any looking stuff up

Everyone on the team contributes to the development of speeches. For tomorrow's discussion style debate, each team needs 2 speeches and ideas for rebuttal (which can be established more firmly during the 5 minutes break).

Resolution #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Affirmative Team	Negative Team
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

Resolution #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Affirmative Team	Negative Team
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

Resolution #3: \_\_\_\_\_

Affirmative Team	Negative Team
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

### **Day 3**

Conduct discussion style debates as developed from yesterday's lesson (reminder: times are cut in half).

Tomorrow, we will use Cross-examination style debate. The topic(s) is/are from our current Social Studies unit.

Homework: Preparations

### **Day 4**

Conduct Cross-examination style debate on topic assigned.