



Introduction to Debate

What is debate?

Debate is an organized argument in which the participants discuss a topic from two opposing sides.





Why debate is important?

Debate teaches critical thinking, research, public speaking, and teamwork skills. It encourages empathy, respect, and understanding of different viewpoints.

Motion

A debate motion is a statement or proposition that is presented for discussion. The purpose of a debate motion is to generate a focused and structured debate, where each team presents arguments and counterarguments to support or refute the motion.



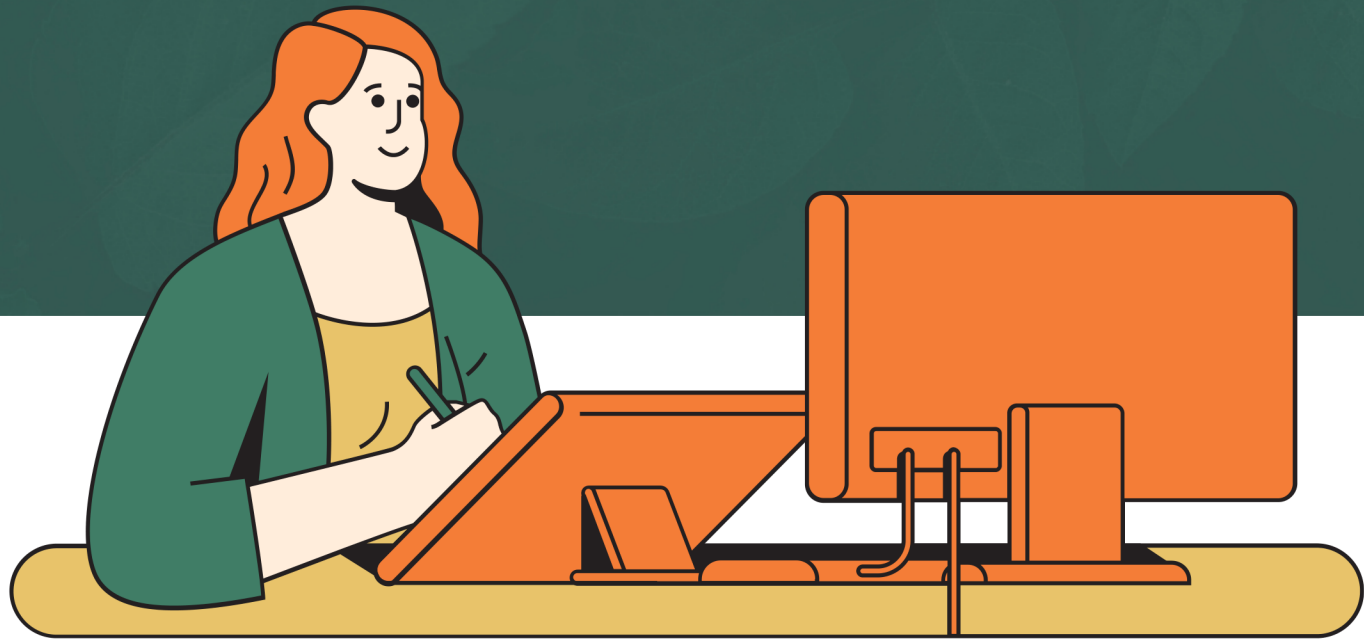
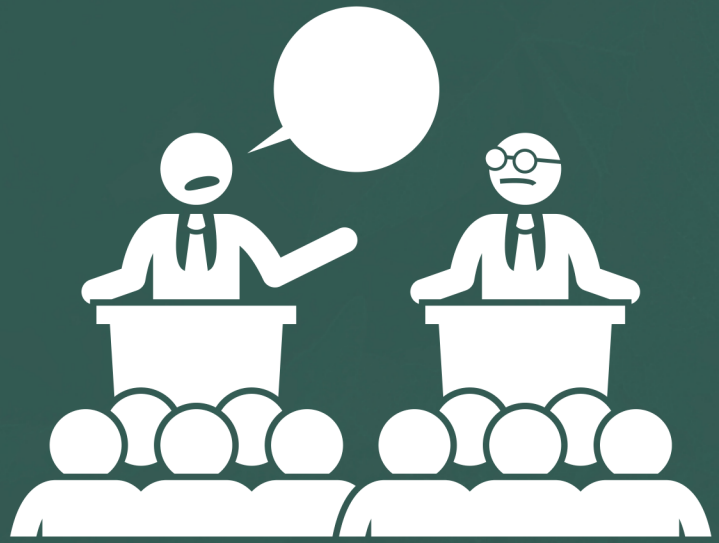
The team which argues against the motion is called the opposition.

Basic elements of debate

The team which argues for the motion is called the affirmative.

Debates have two opposing sides. Each side tries to persuade the audience that their argument is the strongest. Debaters must use evidence and reasoning to support their argument.





Structure of a debate

A debate consists of opening statements, cross-examinations, rebuttals, and closing statements.

Debate Terminology

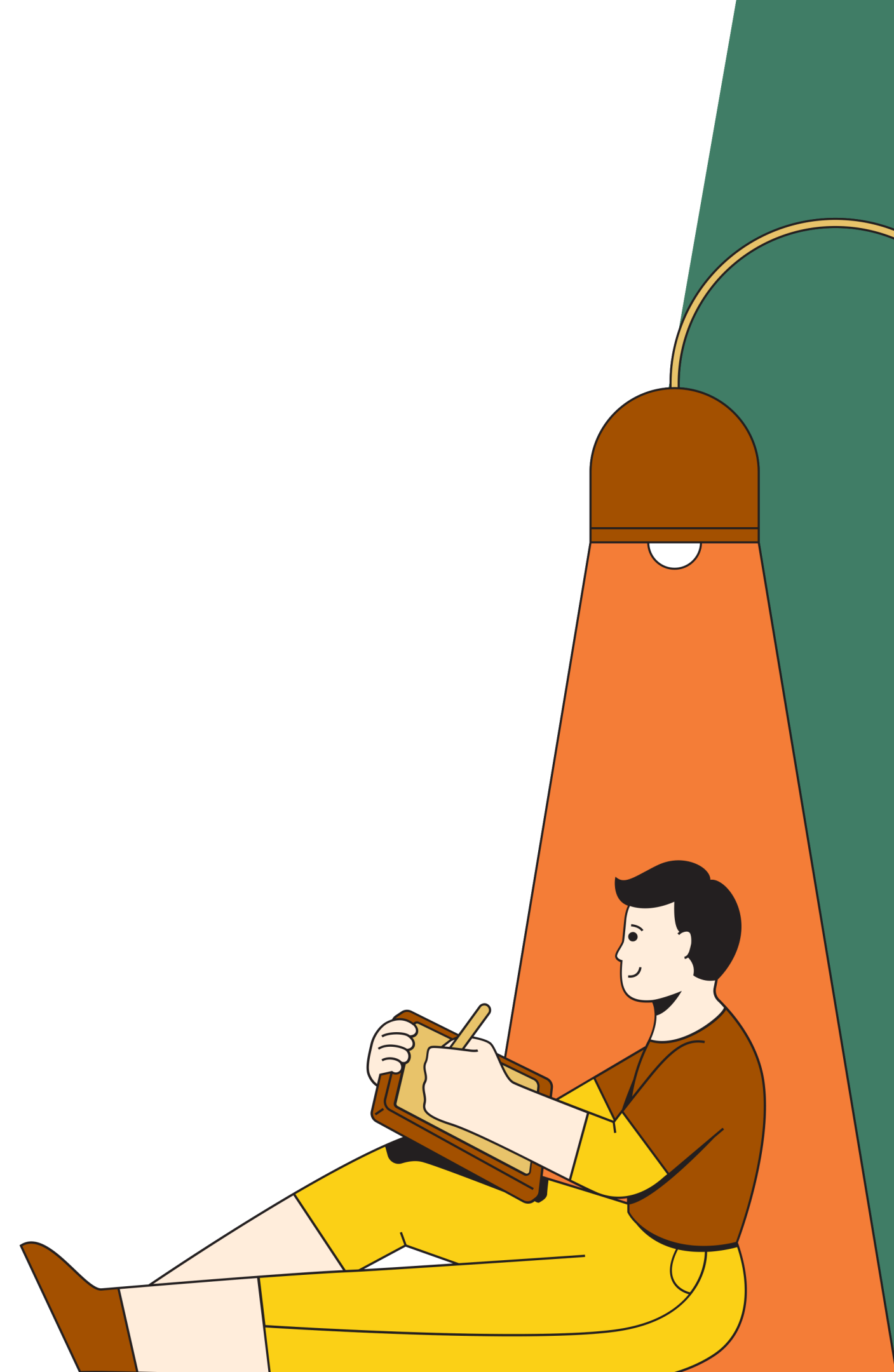
Debate terminology refers to the specialized language and jargon used in the context of formal debating

This includes terms related to argumentation, logic, and rhetorical techniques that are commonly used in debates. Examples of debate terminology include "affirmative/opposition", "rebuttal", "cross-examination", "counter-argument". Understanding debate terminology is important for effectively participating in and analyzing debates.



ARGUMENTS

Arguments are claims that are backed by reasons and are supported by evidence.



Rebuttals

are used in debates and discussions to counter or challenge the opposing team's argument with evidence and reasoning.

Some examples of commonly used counterarguments in debates and discussions include:

- Providing alternative evidence that contradicts the opposing argument.
- Highlighting flaws or gaps in the opposing argument.
- Providing context or additional information that changes the meaning or significance of the opposing argument.
- Presenting a compromise or alternative solution that addresses both sides of the issue.

Stating the issue

The debate begins when the affirmative team 'states the issue'. The affirmative team has both the first and last speeches of the debate.

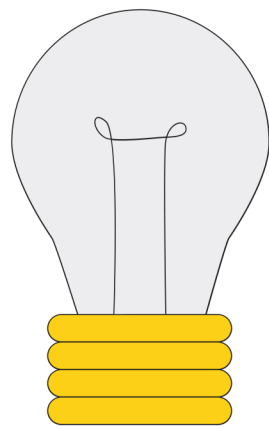


Closing Arguments

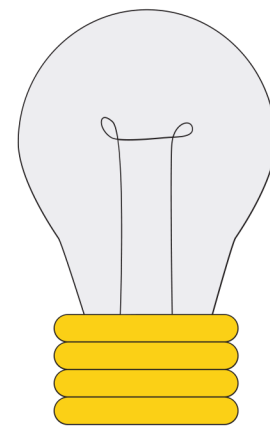
It's a good idea to summarize the main points of your debate speech in your conclusion, address opposing viewpoints and explain why the audience should align with your position. End with a call to action or a strong quote.



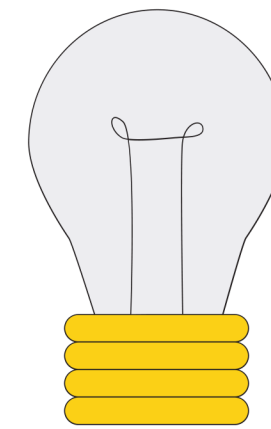
How to prepare for a Debate



Choose a topic you're passionate about.



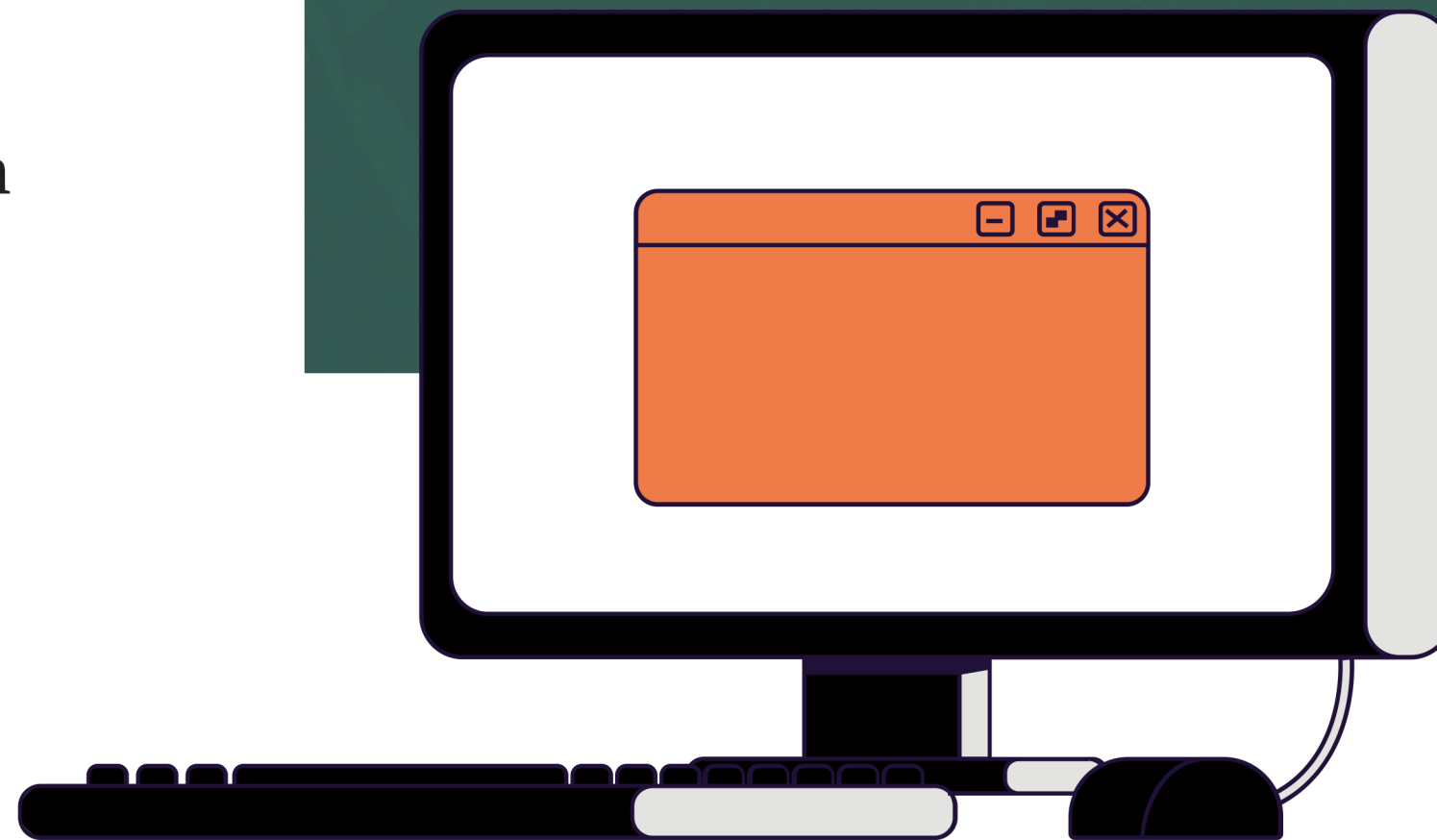
Research and gather information to support your argument.



Practice speaking clearly and confidently in front of others.

Tips for effective debating

Effective debating requires preparation, research, organization, and communication skills. Stay calm and respectful, and present your arguments clearly.



Conclusion and Next steps

Now that you have learned the basics of debate, it's time to put your skills to the test. Join the debate club and continue to improve!





FOX

SECURAM
P A C E M

