

Let's Debate! A Beginner's Guide to Sharing Opinions & Ideas

A step-by-step framework for participating in an English debate: sharing opinions, providing reasons, and interacting politely.

STEP

1

Section 1: The Starting Point

Sharing Your Opinion

A debate is a discussion where people share different opinions about a topic. Common practice topics include:

- "Online vs. Offline classes"
- "Uniforms at school"

An opinion is simply what you think or feel about a topic. Use the structure:

[Intro Phrase] + [Your Idea].

SIMPLE EXPRESSIONS



I think...

I believe...

In my opinion...

Example: I think online learning is useful.

SLIGHTLY ADVANCED EXPRESSIONS



I strongly believe that...

In my view...

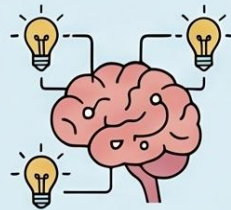
From my perspective...

These phrases add more weight and professionalism to your stance in a debate.

STEP

2

Giving Reasons (The "Why")



Always Explain Your View

A strong opinion needs a "Because" or a "So." Reasons help the listener understand the logic behind your thoughts.

USING "BECAUSE" TO CONNECT IDEAS



I think homework is important

because it helps practice.

USING "SO" TO SHOW RESULTS

Mobile phones are distracting.

so students cannot focus.

STEP

3

Reacting to Others



Agreeing vs. Disagreeing

Use "I agree" when you share a view, and "I don't agree" when you differ. In English, being polite is the most important rule when you have a different opinion.

POLITE AGREEMENT



That's a good point
I think you are correct.

Using these phrases shows you are listening and respect the other person's input.

POLITE DISAGREEMENT



I see your point, but...
I understand, but I think...

These "cushion" phrases make a disagreement sound less aggressive and more professional.

STEP

4

Keeping the Conversation Moving



Asking for Opinions

Engage others by asking, "What do you think?"

USEFUL QUESTIONS

Do you agree?

How do you feel about this?

Ensure a two-way discussion.

Debating is a structured discussion where participants share different viewpoints. Practice these steps to build confidence in expressing your ideas!