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Debate



A debate is a formal discussion on a particular matter in a public setting in which opposing arguments are put forward by two speakers, showing their skills and abilities on a given topic. The speaker who agrees with the topic speaks for the motion and the one who disagrees speaks against the motion. It usually ends with a vote.

Topic Notes

- Marking Scheme
- Structure



A debate is a form of public speaking where the participants put forward facts, information, perspective as well as their own opinions on given topic to compete against each other. The participants need to disprove or invalidate the opinions and stance taken by their competitors and convince the audience why their perspective is better.

Debate requires a good amount of knowledge to write/speak on a given topic. The students should know the pros and cons, facts, benefits, abilities, inabilities or other important information about the topic in order to present strong arguments for or against the motion. The arguments put forward in a debate should be strong enough to validate the stance of the speaker. It is important for the students to keep in mind that they should write about the topic making strong claim with reasonable and rational points.

Marking Scheme

As per the latest CBSE pattern, 1 question will be asked on debate for 5 marks (with internal choice). The marks breakdown as per the new pattern is as follows:

Format (1 mark)

- The format of debate should be followed. It should be either for or against the motion.
- The title is not usually written in a debate.
- In case a title is needed, it should be concise, relevant and eye-catching.

Content (2 marks)

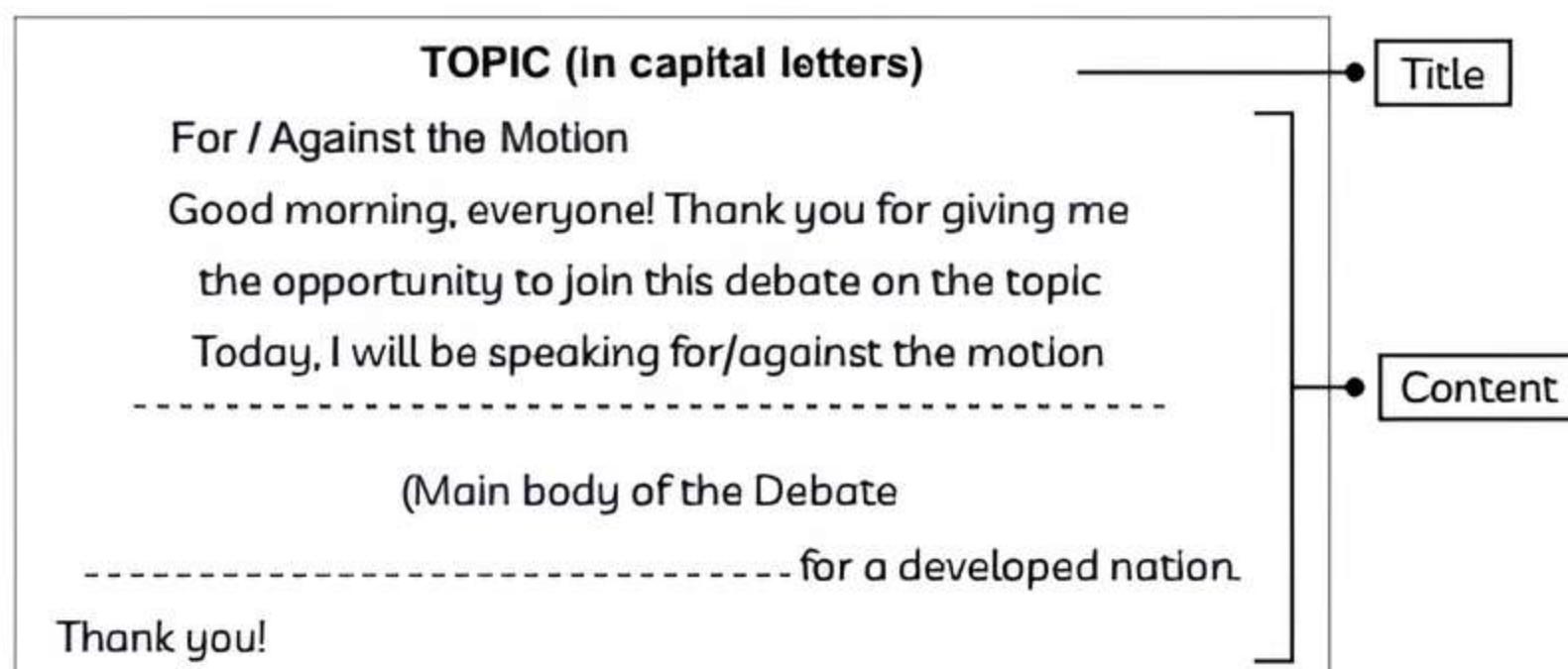
- This forms the main paragraph or body of the debate. It should be written within 120-150 words.
- It should always begin with an introduction stating whether the speaker stands 'for the motion' or 'against the motion', followed with the meaning or explanation of the topic within a sentence.

- All the views, stances, perspectives, ideas, information and thoughts should be explained using crisp and clear sentences.
- The topic and facts given in the question should be briefly elaborated in a few sentences.
- The points should be clear and a link must be maintained between them.
- There should be a relevancy between the sentences that oppose each other.
- The initial sentences should be introductory wherein the speaker addresses the chief guests, teachers, principal or friends, stating his/her choice to speak for or against the motion. The middle portion should provide the main idea or perspective of the speaker on the topic, and the last few lines should summarize the debate in a conventional way, without plainly repeating the sentences or thoughts.

Expression (2 marks)

- The quality of the content, and the ability to present one's thoughts clearly will determine if the final 1 mark will be given or not.
- Grammatical accuracy, sentence structure and spellings are also checked by the examiner.

Structure





Technique

- Write about the issue clearly, without repeating the points.
- Provide the data or facts, if any, in support of your points.
- Use a convincing way of writing in order to make it effective.
- Give strong validations and thought-provoking statements for or against it.
- Avoid writing anything irrational or illogical to prove your point.

Example:

'Mobile phones are a growing health hazard.'
Express your views either for or against the motion in 120-150 words.

Ans. MOBILE PHONES ARE A GROWING HEALTH HAZARD

For the Motion

Good morning everyone present here! Today, I will be speaking for the motion 'Mobile phones are a growing health hazard'.

Mobile phones have become a common sight nowadays. With increase in the number of users of mobile phones, the following things are also on the rise: the number of calls, durations, time spent on mobiles, etc. A study conducted on people using mobile phones often showed that they were more prone to cancer/tumour risks. Their nervous systems are more at risk than the users who use mobiles only when necessary.

Using mobile for long hours is also not good for the eyes, and many posture related problems can be seen in people who spend long hours

on their mobiles. I do not deny the use and importance of mobile phones. It is a necessity that we cannot do without, but we need to use it judiciously and not as a toy to prevent our lives from being at risk.

Thank You!

MOBILE PHONES ARE A GROWING HEALTH HAZARD

Against the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I will be speaking against the motion 'Mobile phones are a growing health hazard'.

The study regarding the high level of frequency that damages the human nervous system was due to analog or wired phones, and not wireless ones. As per the recent study by 'The Federal Communications Commission (FCC)', no scientific evidence establishes a direct link between wireless devices and serious illnesses. Thus, I believe that mobile phones have no such nerve-damaging effect on people.

To support my belief, most of the published analyses have shown no significant increase in cancers with relation to prolonged mobile phone use. The other thing which is noteworthy is the way of communicating through mobiles today. Majority of people nowadays prefer text messages rather than making phone calls. So, there isn't any need to bring the mobiles close to the head.

Nonetheless, I also believe that excess of anything is bad. One should use mobile phones in a limited way. However, mobile phones do not cause any significant health hazard.

Thank You!

QUESTIONS

1. 'The policy of reservation of seats for admission to the professional courses is good for the deprived sections of society.' Write a debate in 120-150 words either for or against the motion.

Ans. THE POLICY OF RESERVATION OF SEATS FOR ADMISSION TO THE PROFESSIONAL COURSES IS GOOD FOR THE DEPRIVED SECTIONS OF SOCIETY

For the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I will be speaking for the motion 'The policy of reservation of seats for admission to professional courses is good for the deprived sections of society'.

As we all know, India is a land of cultural diversity. Multiple castes and creeds are found here. Unfortunately, some of them like the backward classes, scheduled castes, scheduled

tribes and minorities, do not receive their due and rightful share in the progress. But the concept of 'reservation' for such people has given them various opportunities, and opened new avenues. The backward classes and minorities of the nation were earlier denied higher studies because the maximum number of seats in schools and colleges for professional courses was occupied by general classes. The deprived were left with no choice but to join a private institute for professional courses. It is important to note that they couldn't afford it most of the time.

I strongly feel that the reservation policy is the only way to bring social justice to India. It is needed to bring the deprived section of the country to the forefront and make them stronger as citizens of the country.

Thank You!

Against the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I will be speaking against the motion 'The policy of reservation of seats for admission to professional courses is good for the deprived sections of society'.

There is no doubt that the deprived or weaker sections of the nation need to be helped in order to bring social equality to the country. However, I believe that equality and reservation cannot go together. Reservation is not a boon but a bane for all sections of society as it snatches the opportunity from the hands of the deserving candidate, and gives it to the one who does not try equally hard for it. I do not oppose supporting the deprived section of the society, but there should be other ways to uplift them instead of giving reservations. Let merit be the only criterion for selection. If not, what are competitive examinations meant for?

I believe that reservations for professional courses are an injustice to talented and deserving candidates, be they from the stronger or weaker sections of society. Let's not bring caste or creed into education.

Thank You!

2. Write a debate in 120-150 words either for or against the motion : 'Indulgence of youth in the use of the Internet is a great bane for them.'

Ans. INDULGENCE OF YOUTH IN THE USE OF THE INTERNET IS A GREAT BANE FOR THEM

For the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I will be speaking for the motion 'Indulgence of the youth in the use of the Internet is a great bane for them.'

The youth of a nation is its future. It needs to be equipped with futuristic ideas, knowledge, strength and innovative thoughts, but unfortunately, nowadays, the youth of the country are only engaged in their favourite pastimes, i.e., social media and browsing the Internet. The majority of the youth use the Internet excessively in the years when they should be working on themselves to build their careers and achieve their goals. The flood of interesting apps and social media has taken control of young minds. They spend long hours wasting their precious time on the Internet. The alarming issues regarding the overuse of Internet is that it makes the youth vulnerable to cybercrimes, such as watching adult videos, doing immoral activities, and degrading their minds, etc.

I believe that the youth should stop the excessive use of the Internet as it is really a bane for them. They should rather work on honing their skills in order to prepare for the future.

Thank You!

INDULGENCE OF YOUTH IN THE USE OF THE INTERNET IS A GREAT BANE FOR THEM

Against the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I will be speaking against the motion 'Indulgence of the youth in the use of the Internet is a great bane for them.'

The Internet has proved to be a great boon for the youth of the nation. It has made the youth alert and enlightened about everything happening in the world. With the help of the Internet, they have learned various ways to earn money, learned through online courses, registered themselves to vote, learned several arts through video tutorials, and gathered study material or references for examinations or assignments. The Internet has also bridged the communication gap between youngsters and their family and friends, as there are various apps that connect them to their loved ones in the blink of an eye. The youth is becoming aware about important issues such as global warming, pollution, etc., and issues related to mental health. Things that seemed inapproachable and lesser known to them are now accessible and this helps them to learn about these sensitive issues.

I strongly believe that the Internet is a basic requirement in today's world, and is a boon for the youth, if used thoughtfully.

Thank You!

3. 'No detention policy for classes sixth to eighth is academically very unsound.' Write a debate in 120-150 words either for or against the motion.

Ans. NO DETENTION POLICY FOR CLASSES SIXTH TO EIGHTH IS ACADEMICALLY VERY UNSOUND

For the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I, xyz, stand before you to speak for the motion 'No detention policy for classes sixth to eight is academically very unsound'.

'No detention policy' states that no child shall be held back in any class or expelled from

the school until their elementary education is complete. The step was taken to reduce stress and mental pressure among young students. But the policy has led to poor outcomes, as, instead of helping the student, it has proved ineffective and even harmful for them and their future. This is because elementary education forms the foundation of their further studies. The 'no detention' policy has made the young students and their parents become laid back and easy-going. Students do not study enough or practise their skills. This is the reason that most students today feel extremely worried when they have to appear for competitive exams, as they haven't prepared step-by-step. The policy is ineffective, promotes carelessness among young minds and leaves them unprepared for future struggles. Hence, I believe that it is completely unsound for the students and their future.

Thank You!

NO DETENTION POLICY FOR CLASSES SIXTH TO EIGHTH IS ACADEMICALLY VERY UNSOUND

Against the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I, xyz, stand before you to speak against the motion 'No detention policy for classes sixth to eight is academically very unsound'.

It is undeniable that the cut-throat competition amongst students in schools today, has increased the amount of pressure and stress on young and vulnerable minds. In these initial years of mental development wherein the minds of the students get developed by indulging in games and activities along with their studies, they have to bear the burden of heavy books and courses due to which they lose their innocence, joy, and peace of mind. In this light, the 'no detention' policy has come as a saviour. Students now do not have to worry about their promotion, which results in less stress and healthy mental development. When these children are in Grade-9, their minds are already developed to an extent that they can take the pressure and stress of higher studies because they have spent their foundation years learning and not just cramming their minds with courses.

Therefore, I believe that the 'no detention policy' is a boon for young minds.

Thank You!

4. **Offices are no longer required, as employees can work from their homes. Speak in favour or against the motion in about 120-150 words.**

Ans. OFFICES ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED AS EMPLOYEES CAN WORK FROM THEIR HOMES

For the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I will speak in favour of the motion 'Offices are no longer required as employees can work from their homes'.

The corporate world we see today was not like this a decade ago. Advancement in technology has made office work easier and more accurate, even if it is done from employees' homes. The unforeseen pandemic has made work-from-home the need of the hour. This has allowed people to work from the comfort of their homes. It has been observed that the daily productivity of employees who work from homes is much higher than that of those working on office premises. It also helps people save money for fuel; and for the company it saves expenditure in terms of resources like electricity, office space, parking lot, etc. It also provides relief from issues like pollution and traffic jam.

Therefore, I believe that investing in setting up offices is a waste of money for companies, when employees can work from their homes and be equally or more productive.

Thank You!

OFFICES ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED AS EMPLOYEES CAN WORK FROM THEIR HOMES

Against the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I will speak against the motion 'Offices are no longer required as employees can work from their homes'.

An office is a professional work space, and an essential requirement for any commercial setup, whether big or small. It allows the staff to work together as a team. By working together in an office, people learn team-work, leadership, punctuality and much more. In an official setup, a person continuously gets help and support from his/her colleagues in case he/she gets stuck on a task. The chances of this happening on a work-from-home setup are quite rare. Homely environment often makes an individual lethargic and lazy. It may also result in lack of concentration at work. Sometimes lack of necessary equipments also hamper productivity.

Therefore, it can be said that though 'work-from-home' is a savior during grave times, it is absolutely important for companies to work from offices in normal circumstances.

Thank You!

- 5. Write a debate in 120–150 words either for or against the motion: 'Money is the only thing that matters in today's life'.**

Ans. MONEY IS THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS IN TODAY'S LIFE

For the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I will speak for the motion 'Money is the only thing that matters in today's life'.

In today's world, every moment of joy comes with a price. From a little toy that makes a child happy to a big mansion that fulfils the dreams of an adult, everything requires money. From the time a child is born, a lot of money is required for his or her studies. Then, as he or she grows older, the higher studies needed for a promising career, admission to a reputed college and a start-up of his or her own, require a good amount of money. Without money, almost nothing is possible in this world. Human emotions are definitely important and necessary for a person, but survival without money is nearly impossible in today's world. People have become so selfish and self-centered, that even friends, families and relatives do not help in times of crisis.

Hence, a person needs money, as it is the only thing that matters most in today's life.

Thank You!

MONEY IS THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS IN TODAY'S LIFE

Against the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I will speak against the motion 'Money is the only thing that matters in today's life'.

Money is the greatest necessity of human beings today. We all have heard the saying, "Money is the root of all evils". It gives birth to many inhumane activities, and ill-feelings like jealousy, hatred, viciousness, cold-heartedness, etc. It's good to have money and acquire the things we dream of, but there are more important things in our lives that money cannot buy. Happiness, security, peace, humility, kindness, family, memories, etc., are some of the most essential things in life that cannot be bought with money. Money comes and

goes; what stays with us are our values and the people we care about. An abundance of anything is bad for us, and this phrase holds true for money as well.

When a person acquires some money, he or she experiences bliss from utilising it, becoming greedy in the process. And in this constant greed for money, he or she loses many important relationships and emotions in life. Hence, I believe that money is not the only thing that matters to a person.

Thank You!

- 6. You are Sheeya/Shyam of Modern Public School, Jaipur. In the modern world, it is often said that "ONLINE SMART CLASSES ARE THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION". Write a debate either for or against the motion in 150-200 words.**

[Delhi Gov. QB 2022]

Ans. ONLINE SMART CLASSES ARE THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION

For the Motion

Honourable Judges, respected teachers and my dear friends. I stand before you to express my views on the topic, Online smart classes are the future of education, and today, I Sheeya of XI class will speak for the motion. If you are so old-minded and think that computers will distract children from studies, I am really sorry because let me remind you that the young generation has come a long way with computers. When most parents think of learning from computers, socialising websites like Facebook appear in front of their eyes. It is the biggest cyber tragedy. There are definitely a large number of sites beyond fist Facebook.

Udemy, Khan academy, Byju's teaching app, the list of online teaching platforms is endless and ever growing. There are millions of students and teachers who use these websites and apps for their exam preparation. They are mostly free, and that is what makes one turn away from traditional paper guides. Google has already replaced the word 'guru' to become the greatest knowledge provider. E learning is also essential because we cut down trees to make papers and books. So this is a bitter solution.

Rather than living the life of a consumer, let's be contributor. Let's buy E-books. Instead of collecting books, let's convert our phones and computers into virtual libraries and learn.

Thank you!

ONLINE SMART CLASSES ARE THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION

Against the Motion

Honourable judges, respected teachers and my dear friends. My topic for the day is "Online smart classes are the future of education" and I choose to speak against the motion.

Online learning or e-learning, refers to learning conducted via electronic media, typically on the Internet. There is no face-to-face interaction between the teacher and the student. It decreases the scope of adjusting and modifying the language according to the demands of the audience. There is a lack of proper guidance and self-assessment mechanisms. It would also reduce employment among teachers since it involves only brain work and not physical work, they tend to get lethargic. It also leads to lack of discipline. There is no proper schedule.

Excellent interactions are involved in physical learning. People tend to make friends who support them and mentors who guide them. I hope all of you will agree with my views.

Thank you and have a nice day.

7. 'Capital punishment should be abolished in India.' Speak in favour or against the motion in about 120-150 words.

Ans. CAPITAL PUNISHMENT SHOULD BE ABOLISHED IN INDIA

For the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I will speak for the motion 'Capital punishment should be abolished in India'.

Capital punishment, also known as the death penalty, originated during the times of the earliest monarchs. I feel that death penalty is not an effective form of punishment as it merely ends the lives of the criminals. On the other hand, a life sentence gives a criminal enough time to realise his/her wrongdoing, and repent for it. If a criminal gets no time to realise his/her mistakes, and is not taught a lesson about how he/she devastated others' life/lives, he/she would not regret it ever. A death penalty snatches away the very sense of realisation from a criminal. Nevertheless, I support the view that the criminal must be given a strict punishment to dissuade others from committing the same crime.

Hence, I believe that capital punishments must be abolished in the country.

Thank You!

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT SHOULD BE ABOLISHED IN INDIA

Against the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I will speak against the motion 'Capital punishment should be abolished in India'.

In India, due to the merciful judiciary system, criminals are growing fearless, committing more heinous offences every day. The convicts of such offences are a severe threat to humanity, and are not fit to be a part of the social institutions. Moreover, others also get fearless due to absence of any strict punishment. As a result, the best way to punish them is to give them the death penalty. The convicts inhumanly commit crimes in unspeakable ways in broad daylight without fear. These monsters deserve nothing less than capital punishment. The punishment also gives a sense of relief to the families of the victims. It proves to be the most effective warning for other criminals to avoid committing such crimes in the future.

Thus, I strongly believe that capital punishment is a befitting penalty for certain crimes and it should be maintained in our judicial system.

Thank You!

8. 'An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind.' Speak in favour of or against the motion in about 120-150 words.

Ans. AN EYE FOR AN EYE MAKES THE WHOLE WORLD BLIND

For the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I will speak for the motion, 'An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind'.

I agree that an eye for an eye will turn the entire world blind. To return evil with evil is not good for the inner self. It does not give you the closure you desire. If all the people in the world adapt to the same behavioural instincts, mankind will collapse. There will be no difference between the good and the bad. Gandhiji had always believed in non-violence and peace. If a person hurts you or does bad things to you, it shows that the person is in need of love, compassion and peace for himself/herself. Rather than hurting him/her back, answer him/her with kindness so that he/she realises the crime he/she has committed and mends his/her ways.

Revenge will not only result in evil but will also turn humans immoral. Hence, I believe that an eye for an eye makes the whole world blind.

Thank You!

**AN EYE FOR AN EYE MAKES THE WHOLE
WORLD BLIND**

Against the Motion

Good morning, everyone present here! Today, I will speak against the motion 'An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind'.

An eye for an eye is required to curb an evil act. Not everybody deserves to be treated kindly. If we think that dealing with love and compassion with those who are devoid of it will change them for the better, we are fooling ourselves. It is not an easy task to make anyone realise the

mistakes or sins that they commit. Therefore, often a strict action or punishment is the only way for such people. It is important to give evil people 'the taste of their own medicine' in order to make them realise the consequences of such behaviour. Such immoral beings need to understand that suppressing others or being cruel or unkind to others is not acceptable.

Therefore, I believe that an eye for an eye doesn't make the world blind. Rather, it opens the eyes of wrongdoers.

Thank You!

