

Strategic Debating Skills

2015 October 8th

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Orientation

- Debating skills would be useful
- Purpose of the course
- How a debate is carried out
- A short presentation by the TA
- Assessment
- Schedule
- Trial Debate

What does one learn through Strategic Debating?

- A formal method of debating. Techniques of debating
- To train one's logical thinking process
 - Constructing a well focused argument
 - Listening to the opponent and arguing convincingly -- related to Creativity
- Presentation style
- Team work

Topics

- Examples of Serious topics

- 1) The self sufficiency ratio of food production which is less than 40% is a serious problem for Japan
- 2) We support the use of agricultural crops as bio fuels
- 3) Education is the source of one's success

Light topics

- 1) Smoking should be banned completely on campus
- 2) Summertime should be introduced in Japan

- Philosophical

- 1) What makes us happy is based on 3 factors, satisfaction with our work, loving family and friends, good health
- 2) A genius is 1 inspiration and 99 perspiration (or making effort)

Assessment

- Class participation (20%)
- Debating skills (60%)
- Learning, motivation, enthusiasm, team work (20%)

Schedule

- 10/8 Orientation - A trial debate
- 10/15 Listening skills: Debate 1
- 10/22 How to develop an argument: Debate 2
- 10/29 No class (International conference)
- 11/5 Negotiation skills: Debate 3
- 11/12 Presentation style: Debate 4
- 11/19 Marketing your ideas: Debate 5
- 11/26 Combining the Skills: Debate 6
- 12/3 Final debate