

Debating guidelines

When debating you need a point of view and the desire to express it.

Below are some tips for students on how to be persuasive*:

Listen carefully to other people's views and remember that everyone's opinion is valid.

Consider what you are going to say before you contribute.

'Ground' your ideas with evidence - something you have read or studied.

Get your facts straight - helpful statistics and quotations from experts are very persuasive.

Prove your ideas with relevant personal experience.

State your ideas clearly and concisely - keeping your comments snappy is the best way to ensure they are read.

Add humour but avoid sarcasm when expressing your opinions.

Express your views passionately - try to let people know that you care deeply about what you are saying, but don't lose your temper.

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