

# Student Tips for Dominating Pop-Up Debate

## Before the debate:

- Read and re-read the debatable statement or question that your teacher gives you.
  - What possible sides are there to the debate?
  - What possible arguments are there for each side?
  - Is your teacher going to assign you to a side of this debate, or will you be allowed to choose? Remember: great arguers can debate all sides.
- Listen to or read your teacher's instructions regarding the speaking and/or listening moves that will be graded during this debate.
- If your teacher directs you to do so, write a specific goal for your performance during today's debate.

## During the debate:

- When you are ready to enter the debate, merely "pop up" and talk.
  - If multiple students pop up at the same time, the first one to talk is the one who has the floor. When in conflicts arise, strive to be mature and self-controlled, yielding the floor graciously when needed.
- Everyone must speak at least \_\_\_\_\_. No one may speak more than \_\_\_\_\_.
  - These are up to your teacher.
- The teacher may randomly call on you if there is a lull or if he/she sees fit..
- The teacher may or may not assign you to a side of the argument.
- Make sure you do the move(s) your teacher is grading. This is important for both your grade and your growth!

## Remember: Gracious arguers are more winsome to listeners.

- Be mindful of how tone can communicate disrespect. Great arguers respect their opponents.
- Use humor wisely.
- Always represent your opponent's points in a manner that they would not disagree with (i.e., no "straw man" tactics)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Today's Pop-up Debate Question or Statement is:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Use the space below to begin brainstorming arguments related to the prompt above:

**Assessed Skills:**

"Must-do" Speaking / Listening Skill #1:

"Must-do" Speaking / Listening Skill #2:

"Must-do" Speaking / Listening Skill #3:

**Personal Goal(s) for today's debate:**

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