

The Places in Between - Debate

The assessment, or test, for this novel is going to be a formal debate on **one** of the following questions:

1. Should a country interfere with another country's government?
2. Which is more important: a country's history or a country's current affairs?
3. Did the novel perpetuate or help eliminate cultural stereotypes about the Middle East?
4. Was the author brave or unintelligent for walking across Afghanistan without protection?

You will be put into a group of 3-4 and given one side of an argument. **You do not get to choose which question you get, which side of the argument you are on, or who you work with.** A major skill you will need for college is the ability to argue an opinion that you do not necessarily agree with, as well as work with people that are not your best friends. This is a way to prepare you for that.

A debate is NOT AN OPPORTUNITY TO ARGUE WITH YOUR CLASSMATES! A debate is a chance to show respect while still showing conviction. A debate is an opportunity to practice being prepared as well as being flexible when the topic shifts.

Here is the format/structure of a formal debate:

- Introduction: An opening statement about what your group will be arguing and the major points that support your argument. Think of this as the thesis for your argument.
- Supporting points (3 total): Each side will give one of their supporting details at a time in order to defend their main point. These points should include examples from the book as well as support from research outside the text.
 - Rebuttal: After each individual supporting detail, the other team gets the opportunity to refute their point either through the research they have, pointing out failed logic, or using the textual evidence they collected from the book. This happens after every team elaborates on one of their supporting details.
- Concluding statement: One person from each team will give a wrap of their argument and point out any fallacies that the other team used for their main points.

Requirements:

1. Your team is required to have three reasons to support your argument.
2. Your team is required to have at least three pieces of support from the book, in either a quote or example.
3. Your team is required to have support from at least two outside sources.
4. Each team is required to turn in a works cited page for the sources they use (only one per team).
5. Each person on the team is required to turn in an outline of what their role is in the debate and the key talking points to go over.

Debate Packet

Part One: Brainstorming

You argument in the debate:

Before even reading or researching, what do you think are three reasons why your particular argument makes sense:

1.

2.

3.

Before even reading or researching, what do you think are two things that the other team is going to argue?

1.

2.

Lastly, where do you think you are strongest in terms of this debate? Will you do well with rebuttals, with opening statements, with presenting research, etc.?

Part Two: During Reading

As you read, find 5 examples in the text that you can use to back up your argument in the debate. When you find one, write the page number in column one, the quote or summary of event in column two, and your notes on how this could help you defend your argument in column 3.

Page #	Quote or Summary	Notes for Debate

Part Three: Research

Fill in each box with information from one of the outside sources you will be using.

Title of site:	Author:	
Date:	Website's owner:	URL:
Information from site that you will use for debate:		

Title of site:	Author:	
Date:	Website's owner:	URL:
Information from site that you will use for debate:		

Title of site:	Author:	
Date:	Website's owner:	URL:
Information from site that you will use for debate:		

Part Five: Outline

Thesis statement: _____

Support #1: _____

Support #2: _____

Support #3: _____

Predicted Counterargument: _____

Wrap-up: _____
