

Beyond the Debate:

Evaluate, Reflect, Investigate



Name:

Date:

Name of Speaker:

Topic:

Debate Scorecard

Directions: As you watch the debate, evaluate more than how each speaker performs. Listen closely to the claims they make, the evidence they use, how they respond to other viewpoints and whether their arguments hold up. Use this scorecard to rate each speaker, then reflect on what makes an argument credible and convincing.

	4 – Superior	3 – Proficient	2 – Developing	1 – Needs Improvement	
 Delivery	Communicates clearly and confidently; uses tone, pace and body language appropriately	Communicates clearly; generally uses tone, pace and body language appropriately	Sometimes unclear; tone, pace or body language may distract	Frequently unclear or difficult to follow	
 Clarity & Organization	Presents viewpoints clearly, logically and with focus	Presents viewpoints in a mostly clear and organized way	Viewpoints are sometimes unclear, unfocused or disorganized	Viewpoints lack clarity, focus and organization	
 Evidence & Sources	Uses credible, relevant evidence to support arguments and responses	Uses generally credible, relevant evidence to support arguments and responses	Uses some accurate facts/statistics to support arguments	Provides little or no relevant supporting evidence	
 Strength of Argument	Arguments are clear, convincing and well supported	Arguments are mostly clear, logical and supported	Arguments contain gaps in reasoning or support	Arguments are unclear, illogical or unsupported	
 Response to Other Viewpoints	Thoughtfully and fairly addresses opposing viewpoints and engages respectfully with others	Addresses opposing viewpoints appropriately and engages respectfully	Acknowledges opposing viewpoints but may dismiss or misrepresent them	Dismisses, misrepresents or ignores opposing viewpoints	
	Total Score (20):				0

Think Beyond the Score



Which claim was best supported by evidence? Why? **(6 points)**

Which argument could have been strengthened with better evidence? Explain. **(6 points)**

Did the strongest speaker also make the strongest argument? Why or why not? **(6 points)**

Claim to Check

Write down one statement from the debate that you would like to verify or investigate further. Why do you think this claim deserves a closer look? Consider the evidence, source or context provided. **(12 points)**

Debate Scorecard Score: / 20

Open Response Points Earned: / 30

Total Points: 0 / 50

