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## SAT / ACT Prep Online Guides and Tips

### 55 Great Debate Topics for Any Project



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A debate is a formal discussion about a topic where two sides present opposing viewpoints. Debates follow a specific structure: each side is given time to speak either for or against the topic at hand.

Many students study debate in high school to improve their speaking skills. **As a debater, you learn how to clearly structure and present an argument.** The skills you develop as a debater will help you on everything from a college admissions interview to a job presentation.

Selecting debate topics is one of the most important parts of debating. In this article, we'll explain how to select a good debate topic and give suggestions for debate topics you can use.

## How to Select Good Debate Topics

A good debate topic is one that lets the participants and the audience learn about both sides of an issue. Consider the following factors when selecting a debate topic:

- **Interest:** Are you interested in the topic? Would the topic be interesting to your fellow classmates, as well as to the audience listening to the debate? **Selecting a topic that you're interested in makes the preparation part of the debate more exciting**, as well as the debate more lively.
- **Argument Potential: You want to choose a debate topic that has solid argument potential.** If one side is clearly right, or if there isn't a lot of available information, you'll have a hard time crafting a solid debate.
- **Availability of Data: Data points make an argument more robust.** You'll want to select a topic with lots of empirical data that you can pull from to bolster your argument.

Now that we know how to select a debate topic, let's look at a list of good debate topics.

## Debate Topics Master List

If you're searching for your next debate topic, here are some suggestions.

### Social and Political Issues Debate Topics

- All people should have the right to own guns.
- The death penalty should be abolished.
- Human cloning should be legalized.
- All drugs should be legalized.
- Animal testing should be banned.
- Juveniles should be tried and treated as adults.
- Climate change is the greatest threat facing humanity today.
- Violent video games should be banned.
- The minimum wage should be \$15 per hour.

- All people should have Universal Basic Income.
- Sex work should be legal.
- Countries should be isolationist.
- Abortion should be banned.
- Every citizen should be mandated to perform national public service.
- Bottled water should be banned.
- Plastic bags should be banned.