**Persuasion in Speech**

**Find out more about this task:**

**a. Objectives:**
- To revise the debating skills and the language used in debates
- To enhance your understanding of persuasion skills
- To strengthen your analytical and critical thinking skills

**b. What to do:** Go to [http://www.jsit.net/debate-5/eng5.htm](http://www.jsit.net/debate-5/eng5.htm) and watch a video-recorded debate competition (about 40 mins. long) and complete this worksheet

**c. Suggested time:** 2 hours

**Your task:**

1. On the above page, click on ‘Debate Replay’ to start the video. While you are watching, jot down some notes and complete the following two tables. (You are advised to skim the questions once before watching the video.)

**Affirmative side:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team Member</th>
<th>Main Argument</th>
<th>How did the speaker support his/her main argument? Give examples(^1).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Captain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Speaker</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Speaker</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concluding Speaker</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Language used for\(^2\):

1. Presenting the arguments:
2. Rebutting:
3. Summing up:

---

\(^1\) For help, refer to Module 2, Section III “Supporting your argument”, of the English II course notes.

\(^2\) For help, refer to Module 2, Section IV B "The language used in debates", of the English II course notes.
**Negative side:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team Member</th>
<th>Main Argument</th>
<th>How did the speaker support his/her main argument? Give examples¹.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Captain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1ˢᵗ Speaker</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2ⁿᵈ Speaker</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concluding Speaker</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Language used for²:
1. Presenting the arguments:
2. Rebutting:
3. Summing up:

2. The affirmative side won the debate and the “Best Debater” award went to Alexander Ho. Can you suggest a few reasons why Alexander stood out from the other speakers?

_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

3. Based on the adjudicator's comments, can you summarize what a good debate should include? What are considered to be good debating skills?

_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

4. Extension: Want to watch a few more debates to learn from other people's experience? Go to this page: [http://www.jsit.net/debate-8/e_results_of_years.htm](http://www.jsit.net/debate-8/e_results_of_years.htm)

¹ For help, refer to Module 2, Section III “Supporting your argument”, of the English II course notes.

² For help, refer to Module 2, Section IV B “The language used in debates”, of the English II course notes.