2025-2026 Debate Class

Text: Everyday Debate by Shelly Johnson

| **Week** | **Date Due** | **Reading** | **Questions** | **Memorize** | **Other** |
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| 1 | Sept 11 |  |  | - |  |
| 2 | Sept 18 | Ch 1 | **Review Exercises:**  List Q1,2,3  Explain Q2  Define and Relate  **Everyday Debate:**  List  **Learning from the Masters:** optional: Think about the questions listed while watching The Great Debaters | - | Please get parent’s permission before watching The Great Debaters. Clips of the movie will be shown and analyzed in class throughout the course. |
| 3 | Sept 25 | Ch 2 | **Review Exercises:**  Explain Q1a(Thales, Empedocles, Democritus, Debate), Q2, Q4, Q6  **Everyday Debate:**  Develop | - |  |
| 4 | Oct 2 | Ch 3 | **Review Exercises:**  Define  Explain  **Everyday Debate:**  Consider (Listen will be done in class)  **Learning from the Masters\*:** optional: watch Nixon/Kennedy debate and consider the strengths and weaknesses of each speaker. | “Love is free; it is not practiced as a way of achieving other ends.” - Pope Benedict XVI | \*We will watch clips of the Nixon/ Kennedy debate in class. |
| 5 | Oct 16 | Ch 4 | **Review Exercises:**  List Q1-5  Explain  **Everyday Debate:**  Debate\*  Consider | “A truth that’s told with bad intent,  Beats all the lies you can invent.” - William Blake | \*Take a little extra time to understand the Toulmin model - it will come up again. |
| 6 | Oct 23 | Ch 5 | **Review Exercises:**  Define Q1-4  List  Explain  **Gun Control:**  Develop | “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.” - Martin Luther King Jr. | As we prepare for the big Gun Control Debate, consider a notebook / binder / folder to organize all of your research and arguments. |
| 7 | Oct 30 | Ch 6 | **Review Exercises:**  Define Q1-5  Discuss  **Everyday Debate:**  Develop  (We will debate this in class)  **Gun Control:**  List Q1 | “Courage is not simply one of the virtues but the form of every virtue at the testing point.” - C.S. Lewis |  |
| 8 | Nov 6 | Ch 8 | **Review Exercises:**  Define Q1-5  **Everyday Debate:**  Consider  **Gun Control:**  List (only 1 argument for each side) | “Courage is the knowledge of what is and is not to be feared.” - Nicias |  |
| 9 | Nov 20 | Ch 9 | **Review Exercises:**  Define Q1-6  **Gun Control:**  Debate | “Cowards die many times before their deaths; The valiant never taste of death but once.” - William Shakespeare |  |
| 10 | Nov 27 | Ch 10 | **Review Exercises:**  Define  Explain  Define  **Practicing Analogies:**  Develop  **Gun Control:**  Develop | “It is the first responsibility of every citizen to question authority.”  - Benjamin Franklin |  |
| 11 | Dec 4 | Ch 11 | **Review Exercises:**  Define Q1-6  **Spotting Fallacies:**  Q1-6  **Everyday Debate:**  Think about this - we will debate in class  **Gun Control:**  List\* | “The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.” - Edmund Burke | \*<https://classicalacademicpress.com/pages/everyday-debate-links>  11-2 has an article that links to some resources you can use to examine stats regarding crime/guns. |
| 12 | Dec 11 | Ch 12 | **Review Exercises:**  Define Q1-5  Explain Q1  **Spotting Fallacies:**  Q1-8  **Everyday Debate:**  Debate - prepare; we will debate this in class | “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” - George Santayana |  |
| 13 | Jan 15 | Ch 13 | **Review Exercises:**  List  **Everyday Debate:**  Develop | “Mistakes are a fact of life. It is the response to mistakes that counts.” - Nikki Giovanni |  |
| 14 | Jan 22 | Ch 15 | **Review Exercises:**  Define Q1-5  List  **Gun Control:**  Develop | “To respond to evil by committing another evil does not eliminate evil but allows it to go on forever.” - Vaclav Havel |  |
| 15 | Jan 29 | Ch 16 | **Review Exercises:**  Define Q1-3  Explain Q 1-3  **Gun Control:**  Discuss  Develop - hand this in | “It’s always easier to fight for one’s principles than to live up to them.” - Alfred Adler |  |
| 16 | Feb 12 | Ch 17 | **Review Exercises:**  Define Q1-5  Explain Q1-2  **Gun Control:**  Develop | “A little learning is a dangerous thing; drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring.” - Alexander Pope |  |
| 17 | Feb 19 | Ch 18 | **Review Exercises:**  Q1-6  **Gun Control:**  Develop | “For what should a man live, if not for the pleasures of discourse?” - Plato |  |
| 18 | Feb 26 | Ch 19 | **Review Exercises:**  Explain  List  Explain  **Practicing Humor:**  Develop  **Gun Control:**  Develop | “Natural abilities are like natural plants, that need pruning by study.” - Francis Bacon |  |
| 19 | Mar 12 | Ch 20 | **Review Exercises:**  Define Q1-6  **Gun Control:**  Develop - instructions given in class | “Wit is the salt of conversation, not the food.” - William Hazlitt |  |
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| 20 | Mar 19 | Ch 21 | **Review Exercises:**  List 1-5  Define Q1-4  Explain  **Gun Control:**  List | “He that overvalues himself will undervalue others, and he that undervalues others will oppress them.” - Samuel Johnson |  |
| 21 | Mar 26 | Ch 23 | **Review Exercises:**  List  **Gun Control:**  Develop | “The unexamined life is not worth living.” - Socrates |  |
| 22 | Apr 9 | Ch 24 | **Review Exercises:**  Explain Q1,2  **Everyday Debate:**  Debate - instructions given in class | “The best is the enemy of the good.” - Voltaire |  |
| 23 | Apr 16 | Ch 25 | **Review Exercises:**  List  Explain Q1-2  List  **Gun Control:**  Practice - consider videotaping yourself to see/listen for any nervous habits (eg, “umm”, fiddling with hair, etc) | - | Big Debate in class |
| 24 | Apr 23 |  | Debate Review  Impromptu Speeches  Instructions to be given in class. | "I may walk slowly but I never walk backwards." Abraham Lincoln |  |