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 Q1,2,3Explain Q2Define 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:**DefineExplain**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 Q1-5Explain**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 Q1-4ListExplain**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 Q1-5Discuss**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:**DefineExplainDefine**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 Q1-5Explain 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 Q1-5List **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 Q1-3Explain Q 1-3**Gun Control:**DiscussDevelop - 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 Q1-5Explain 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:**ExplainListExplain**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 1-5Define Q1-4Explain**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:**ListExplain Q1-2List**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 ReviewImpromptu SpeechesInstructions to be given in class. | "I may walk slowly but I never walk backwards." Abraham Lincoln |  |