



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH (2026-27)
CLASS – XI
DEBATE WRITING

Debate writing is a formal writing task that tests your ability to present logical arguments, counter opposing views, and maintain a persuasive tone.

An ideal debate follows a clear **3 paragraph structure** with a strict word limit of **120–150 words**:

- **Paragraph 1: Introduction & Salutations**
 - Formal address to the audience: *"Respected chairperson, judges, and my dear friends..."*
 - Introduce yourself and state the motion clearly (**For** or **Against** the topic).
 - Hook the audience with a relevant quote, question, or short statement.
- **Paragraph 2: Main Arguments (The Problem / Core Points)**
 - Present 2 to 3 strong, logical points supporting your stance.
 - Support your claims with facts, statistics, examples, or real-world events.
- **Paragraph 3: Rebuttal / Counterarguments and Conclusion**
 - Acknowledge the opposing side's view.
 - Skilfully refute or dismantle their argument using logic and counter-evidence.
 - Summarize your main stance in a strong, memorable way.
 - End with a powerful concluding line or call to action, followed by thanking the audience.

Essential Do's and Don'ts

Do's

- **Outline your points** on a rough sheet before writing to maintain a logical sequence.
- **Maintain formal language**—avoid slang, abbreviations, or overly casual expressions.
- **Keep to the word limit** (strictly adhere to 120–150 words or 150–200 words as instructed).
- **Leave line gaps** between paragraphs for a clean, readable presentation.
- **Use general quotes** and concrete facts/statistics to make your argument credible.

Don'ts

- **Never reveal personal details** (do not write your real name, school name, or roll number).
- **Do not write the entire debate in a single block of text** (always use distinct paragraphs).

- **Avoid emotional outbursts or offensive language;** keep the tone persuasive yet respectful.
- **Do not fabricate fake statistics;** use realistic or general logical data.

When writing a debate, some important points to keep in mind include:

- 1. Understanding the subject:** Do thorough research on the topic to help you make an informed argument.
- 2. Structure:** A discussion should be well-organized, with a concise introduction, main body, and summary. The body of your essay should contain your points and counterpoints, while the conclusion should restate your main points and clarify your position. The introduction should describe the subject and provide background information.
- 3. Give Proof:** Back your assertions with strong, applicable evidence, such as statistics, professional opinions, and examples from the real world.
- 4. Logical Flow:** Make sure your arguments and counterarguments follow one another and make logical sense.
- 5. Objectivity:** Make an effort to offer a fair and impartial analysis of the subject, taking into account all available information.
- 6. Persuasion:** Your goal is to persuade your audience to share your point of view, so be careful to offer a compelling case that takes into consideration any rebuttals or counterarguments.
- 7. Clarity:** Use clear and concise language that is easy to understand and presents your points effectively.
- 8. Referencing:** Properly cite any sources you use in your debate to demonstrate credibility and avoid plagiarism.

EXAMPLE-

1. You are Mukul / Mahima of Alps Public School. Your school has organized a debate on “Social Media and It’s Effects” and you will be participating. Prepare your views against or in favour of the motion. (120 – 150 words)

FOR THE MOTION:

“We are all now connected by the internet, like neurons in a giant brain”

Honourable judges, teachers and my worthy opponents thank you for giving me the opportunity to join this debate on the topic, “Social Media and It’s Effects”. I am Mukul/ Mahima and I would like to speak in favour of the motion.

How many people do not have a smile on their faces on finding an old friend on Facebook? Well, social media has removed all the barriers and boundaries to communication by bringing the globe on a single platform. While business opportunities have widened, marketer’s reach has broadened. It keeps us updated about everything going on in every nook and corner of the world on a real-time basis.

From emergency alerts, announcements and declarations to knowing how our friends are doing has all become so convenient. It provides freedom of speech and thus, enables everyone to speak their mind. Not to forget the incalculable access it provides to the extensive information.

With so much advancement and innovation, it would be an unimaginable world without having social media in it. Someone has rightly put it into words by saying,

“Social media is addictive precisely because it gives us something that the real world lacks: it gives us immediacy, direction and a value as an individual.”

Thank you.

AGAINST THE MOTION:

What a world it is, with everyone on their phones, all the time, faking their lives and keeping a count of their likes?

Good Morning, ladies and gentlemen! I am Mukul/ Mahima and my topic for the day is, “Social media and its effects”. I would like to speak against the motion.

It has now become doubtful to trust the saying that goes like “Technology was developed to save time and make our lives easier”, because people have become addicted and unproductive. It takes a lot of effort and discipline to stay away from social media. Results have shown that it has had adverse effects on human minds and their functioning. Outdoor activities among children have also reduced significantly.

No doubt it provides access to useful information, but, it is hard to ignore the quantum of fake news that spreads like wildfire and the extent of impact it has on the society. In fact, fake whatsapp forwards was a clear pattern that was observed behind the recent mob lynchings or rather, “Death by social media”.

It is one of the reasons behind insecurities and depression among teenagers. It is right that technology was introduced to save time, but we forgot to mention, “In the right amount”Â. So, remember, you leave the present moment every time you check the phone.

Thank you

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

- 1. ‘Homes for the aged is a necessity in India ‘. Write a debate in 120- 150 words either for or against the motion. You are Shivam/ Shivani.**
- 2. Are celebs responsible for the products they endorse? Taking a cue from the headlines given below and using your own ideas, write a debate for or against the topic. (about 120-150 words)**
- 3. ‘Brain drain is not a bane for a developing country like India.’ Write a debate in 120 – 150 words either for or against the motion.**
- 4. “Artificial Intelligence Will Do More Harm Than Good to Society.” Write a debate either for or against the motion in 120–150 words.**
- 5. Topics- “Are Marks More Important Than Skills?”**
- 6. Should School Uniforms Be Compulsory?**
- 7. “Should Celebrities Be Considered Role Models?”**