**IGH SCHOOL DEBATE TOPICS**

1. All students should have an after school job.
2. Partial birth abortion should be illegal.
3. Every student should be required to take a performing arts course.
4. Homework should be banned.
5. [School uniforms](https://www.thoughtco.com/pros-cons-of-school-uniforms-6760) should be required.
6. [Year round education](https://www.thoughtco.com/year-round-education-6742) is not a good idea for student learning.
7. The legal drinking age should be lowered to 18.
8. PE should be required of all students throughout high school.
9. All students should be required to perform one year of community service.
10. Schools should block Youtube.
11. Students should be able to leave school for lunch.
12. All parents should be required to attend parenting classes before having a child.
13. [Single-sex schools](https://www.thoughtco.com/advantages-of-single-sex-education-2773308) are better for students.
14. Students should be held legally responsible for bullying in schools.
15. Cyberbullying that occurs outside of school, should be punished by the school.
16. Teachers should not be allowed to contact students through social media.
17. Public prayer should not be allowed in schools.
18. High stakes state testing should be abolished.
19. All people should be vegetarians.
20. Renewable forms of energy should be subsidized by the government.
21. Should America provide foreign aid to countries that kill and sell items from endangered animals.
22. It is never appropriate for the government to restrict freedom of speech.
23. [Human cloning](https://www.thoughtco.com/should-human-cloning-be-banned-721486) should be banned.
24. Poetry should be removed from the curriculum.
25. Macs are better than PCs.
26. Androids are better than iPhones.
27. The US Government should fund a space mission to Mars.
28. Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) should be banned.
29. Democracy is the best form of government.
30. All citizens who do not vote should pay a fine.
31. The [death penalty](https://www.thoughtco.com/death-penalty-research-finding-sources-1857302) should be abolished.
32. Sports stars should be positive role models.
33. The right to bear arms is a necessary constitutional amendment.
34. Grades should be abolished.
35. Progressive tax rates are unfair.
36. The voting age should be lowered.
37. The driving age should be raised.
38. Sharing music online should be allowed.
39. Video games are too violent.
40. History is an important subject in school.
41. Schools should not be allowed to track students.
42. Students should be required to pass algebra to graduate.
43. Affirmative action should be abolished.
44. Students should not be graded on their handwriting.
45. Women should not get the right to vote. (Note: This provides students with historical context for the 19th amendment.)
46. America should not give foreign aid to other countries.
47. The government should provide wireless service for everyone.
48. Smoking should be illegal.
49. People should be fined for not recycling.
50. Performance enhancing drugs should be allowed in sports.
51. Parents should be allowed to choose their baby's gender.
52. Animal testing should be banned.
53. Corporations should be allowed to donate money to political campaigns.
54. Drone attacks against specific targets are a necessary part of modern warfare.
55. US representatives and senators should have term limits.
56. All students should take an [online course](https://www.thoughtco.com/taking-online-college-courses-1098160).
57. Social media comments should be protected by free speech.
58. A border fence should be constructed between US and Mexico.
59. Same sex marriage should be legal.
60. Intelligent design should be taught in science classes.

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Debates are a wonderful, high interest way to teach a number of skills to students. They provide students with the ability to research a topic, work as a team, practice public speaking skills, and use critical thinking skills. [Holding debates in middle school classes](https://www.thoughtco.com/holding-debates-in-middle-school-classes-8012) can be especially rewarding despite the challenges that go along with teaching tweens. These students enjoy debating as it provides variety and allows them to become passionately involved with an assigned topic.

Following is a list of topics that would be appropriate for use in [Middle School](https://www.thoughtco.com/preparing-for-middle-school-1857199) classrooms. As you read through these you will see that some are more appropriate for specific curriculum areas while others can be used in classes across the board. Each item is listed as a proposition. You will assign one team this proposition and the opposing team would argue the opposite.

1. All students should have daily chores.
2. Every home should have a pet.
3. Every student should play a [musical instrument](https://www.thoughtco.com/musical-instruments-printables-1832427).
4. Homework should be banned.
5. [School uniforms](https://www.thoughtco.com/pros-cons-of-school-uniforms-6760) should be required.
6. [Year round education](https://www.thoughtco.com/year-round-education-6742) is better for students.
7. Children should not be allowed to drink soda.
8. PE should be required of all students throughout middle and [high school](https://www.thoughtco.com/high-school-expectations-1857206).
9. All students should be required to volunteer in the community.
10. [Corporal punishment](https://www.thoughtco.com/reasons-for-banning-corporal-punishment-2773347) should be allowed in schools.
11. The Internet should be banned from schools.
12. Junk food should be banned from schools.
13. All parents should be required to attend parenting classes before having a child.
14. All students should be required to learn a foreign language in middle school.
15. All museums should be free to the public.
16. [Single-sex schools](https://www.thoughtco.com/advantages-of-single-sex-education-2773308) are better for education.
17. Students should be held legally responsible for bullying in schools.
18. Children under 14 should not be allowed on Facebook.
19. Prayer of any form should be prohibited in schools.
20. Statewide tests should be abolished.
21. All people should be vegetarians.
22. Solar energy should replace all traditional forms of energy.
23. Zoos should be abolished.
24. It is sometimes right for the government to restrict freedom of speech.
25. [Human cloning](https://www.thoughtco.com/should-human-cloning-be-banned-721486) should be banned.
26. Science fiction is the best form of fiction. (Or any form of fiction of your choosing)
27. Macs are better than PCs
28. Androids are better than iPhones
29. The moon should be colonized.
30. Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) should be banned.
31. All students should be required to take a cooking class.
32. All students should be required to take a shop or practical arts class.
33. All students should be required to take a performing arts class.
34. All students should be required to learn sewing.
35. Democracy is the best form of government.
36. America should have a king and not a president.
37. All citizens should be required to vote.
38. [The death penalty](https://www.thoughtco.com/death-penalty-research-finding-sources-1857302) is an appropriate penalty for certain crimes.
39. Sports stars are paid too much money.
40. The right to bear arms is a necessary constitutional amendment.
41. Students should never be forced to repeat a year at school.
42. Grades should be abolished.
43. All individuals should pay the same tax rate.
44. Teachers should be replaced by computers.
45. Students should be allowed to skip grades in school.
46. The voting age should be lowered.
47. Individuals who share music online should be put in jail.
48. Video games are too violent.
49. Students should be required to learn about poetry.
50. History is an important subject in school.
51. Students should not be required to show their [work in math](https://www.thoughtco.com/concerns-of-math-teachers-8068).
52. Students should not be graded on their handwriting.
53. America should give more money to other countries.
54. Every home should have a robot.
55. The government should provide wireless service for everyone.
56. School pictures should be abolished.
57. Smoking should be banned.
58. Recycling should be required.
59. Children should not watch television on school nights.
60. Performance enhancing drugs should be allowed in sports.
61. Parents should be allowed to choose their baby's gender.
62. Education is the key to future success.

**Topics for Argumentative Essays**



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by [**Melissa Kelly**](https://www.thoughtco.com/melissa-kelly-6107)

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Argumentative essays require students to pick a position and thoroughly research the information to support their opinion. For example, in an essay on school uniforms, a student would choose to argue that either they should or should not be required. Then they will need to find research to support their opinion. The difference between this and an expository essay is really in the amount of research and details involved.

Argumentative essays typically require more time and effort before the student actually begins writing.

Following is a list of topics for argumentative essays that students and teachers can use as inspiration for their own assignments. As you read through these you will see that some are more appropriate for specific curriculum areas while others can be used in a large number of classes. Each item is written as a question requiring the student to answer.

1. Should parents be allowed to choose the sex of their child?
2. Are humans responsible for [Global Warming](https://www.thoughtco.com/the-causes-of-global-warming-1203786)?
3. Should people have to take a parenting class when they become pregnant for the first time?
4. Should euthanasia be illegal?
5. Should racial profiling be allowed?
6. Should marijuana be legalized?
7. Should the drinking age be lowered to 18?
8. Should there be term limits set on federal senators and representatives?
9. Should the electoral college exist?
10. Should violent video games be banned?
11. Should waterboarding be legal in certain cases?
12. Should students be required to pass high stakes tests?
13. Should movie stars be afforded more privacy?
14. Should music be censored?
15. Should television commercials for alcohol be banned?
16. Should the rich pay a higher percentage of taxes?
17. Should students be required to learn a foreign language?
18. Should students be required to take physical education throughout high school?
19. Should schools regulate what students bring for their lunches?
20. Should the government regulate food based solely on dietary concerns as opposed to food safety issues?
21. Should affirmative action exist?
22. Should drone attacks be used by the US Government?
23. Should all individuals be required to carry an identity card?
24. Should women be allowed to serve in combat positions in the US military?
25. Should prisoners be allowed to vote?
26. Should the US have used atomic bombs against Japan to end [World War II](https://www.thoughtco.com/overview-of-world-war-ii-105520)?
27. Should English be the official language of America?
28. Should books be censored in schools?
29. Should beauty pageants be banned?
30. Should homework be banned?
31. Should [school uniforms](https://www.thoughtco.com/pros-cons-of-school-uniforms-6760) be required?
32. Should US schools adopt [year round education](https://www.thoughtco.com/year-round-education-6742)?
33. Should public prayer be allowed in schools?
34. Should animal testing be banned?
35. Should the government have the right to restrict freedom of speech in certain cases?
36. Should grades exist?
37. Should greater gun control exist in America?
38. Should the second amendment be repealed?
39. Should students be socially promoted? (Sent to the next grade even if they have not passed the current one)
40. Should teachers be responsible for low test scores?
41. Should the US government continue spending about 1% of its budget in foreign aid?
42. Should abortion be legal?
43. Should schools teach sex education?
44. Should performance enhancing drugs be allowed in professional sports?
45. Should past users of performance enhancing drugs be allowed in the Hall of Fame?
46. Should athletes be held to higher moral standards?
47. Should middle school children be allowed to play violent video games?
48. Should a doctor be able to provide medical care to a minor despite their parent's wishes?
49. Should athletic scholarships exist?
50. Should school voucher programs exist for students in low-performing schools?
51. Should the driving age be raised?
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