

RUBRIC FOR THE GREAT DEBATES

	A (95)	B (85)	C (75)
INTRODUCTION	Debater offers an opening statement which clearly and concisely introduces the topic through analysis and synthesis of existing views/perspectives	Debater attempts to offer an opening statement which introduces the topic through analysis and synthesis of existing views/perspectives	Debater fails to offer an opening statement which introduces the topic through analysis and synthesis of existing views/perspectives
CENTRAL POSITION	Debater states his/her position in the form of a well-articulated, defensible opinion	Debater attempts to state his/her position. It may not be a) well-articulated or b) defensible	Debater fails to state his/her position. It may not be a) well-articulated and/or b) defensible
EVIDENCE	Throughout the discussion, debater selects and shares well-chosen, specific examples that offer position substantive support	Throughout the discussion, debater attempts to select and share examples that offer position support	Throughout the discussion, debater fails to select and share examples that offer position support
COHESION	Debater focuses on the central position in a tight, logical, convincing way	Debater attempts to focus on the central position in a tight, logical, convincing way	Debater fails to focus on the central position in a tight, logical, convincing way
SYSTHESIS/ INTERPRETATION	Debater integrates his/her original ideas with ideas from texts, templates, and class discussions	Debater attempts to integrate his/her own original ideas with ideas from texts, templates, and class discussions	Debater fails to integrate his/her own original ideas with ideas from texts, templates, and class discussions
COUNTERARUGMENTS	Debater assesses and addresses counter-arguments thoughtfully and effectively during the rebuttal	Debater tries to assess and address counter-arguments during the rebuttal	Debater fails to assess and/or addresses counterarguments during the rebuttal
OVERALL UNDERSTANDING OF POSITION	Debater understands and presents his/her position convincingly	Debater mostly seems to understand and presents his/her position convincingly	Debater fails to understand and/or presents his/her position convincingly
FORMAT	Debater adheres to the format/structure of the debate	Debater mostly adheres to the format/structure of the debate	Debater fails to adhere to the format/structure of the debate
PREPARATION	Debater is well-rehearsed and polished	Debater is fairly well-rehearsed and polished.	Debater is not well-rehearsed or polished.
COLLEGIALITY	Debater is respectful and attentively engaged with opponent throughout the debate	Debater is mostly respectful and engaged with opponent throughout the debate	Debater is not respectful and/or attentively engaged with opponent