

Name: _____



Alternative Fuels DEBATE ORGANIZER



Date: _____

Fuel Type: _____

Learning Target: I can argue verbally and in writing for the use of a particular source of energy.

SOURCES - Keep track so you can cite the reliability and trustworthiness of your information, and go back to get more detail if necessary.

PROS: WHY IS YOUR CHOICE BEST? PROVE IT.

What are the advantages to using this form of energy? Consider: Is it clean? Easily available? Inexpensive? Non-polluting? What people could it help? Why else is it a great idea?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

For each PRO, predict how your opposition could argue against it.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

CONS: ACKNOWLEDGE and REFUTE COUNTERARGUMENTS.

What are the disadvantages of using this form of energy? Consider: Are there negative impacts on the planet? Is it expensive or difficult to find or produce? What kind of harm could it cause people?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

For each CON, figure out how you can respond to or disprove each point.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

REMEMBER - To disprove counter-arguments, consider whether they are not true (or not always / necessarily true), or are true but unimportant (not relevant, not significant, or are easy to solve).

Name:

Date:

OPPOSITION'S Fuel Type: _____

OPPOSITION RESEARCH - PROS

What are the advantages to using YOUR OPPONENT'S form of energy? Consider: Is it clean? Easily available? Inexpensive? Non-polluting? What people could it help? Why else is it a great idea?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

For each PRO, how can you argue **against** it.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

OPPOSITION RESEARCH - CONS

What are the disadvantages of using YOUR OPPONENT'S form of energy? Consider: Are there negative impacts on the planet? Is it expensive or difficult to find or produce? What kind of harm could it cause people?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

How can you convince the judges that each CON is important?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Name:



ORDER OF DEBATE



Date:

1) **OPENING ARGUMENTS:** The captain of each team will have four minutes to present opening arguments laying out your main points.

- As the opposing team makes its opening arguments, your team should be taking notes and thinking about how to counter their positions.

2) **CONFER:** Both teams will then have five minutes to confer and decide how to present their rebuttal (questioning and arguing against the opposition's points).

3) **REBUTTAL:** The responses by each team to their opponent's arguments. Each team will have four minutes for rebuttals.

- Individual team members will present specific arguments. This means: new argument = new speaker.
- Consider: how has the opposition failed to prove its case?
 - Did they give enough information?
 - Have they proved that their energy source will achieve what they want it to?
 - Have they established all of their logical links? (e.g. if they say their energy source is efficient because there is so much of it, is that logical?)
 - Can I attack their individual arguments – benefits, advantages, etc.?
Or do I need to show that they are irrelevant/insignificant, etc.?
 - Can I attack their examples? (Either by showing that they are factually wrong or by showing that they are not good examples of their points.)
 - Have they contradicted themselves or anyone else on their side?

4) **CONFER:** Both teams will have five minutes to confer and decide how to respond to the opposition's points.

- Think about how to promote your own arguments, as well as how to weaken the opposition's.

5) **RESPONSE:** Each team will have four minutes to present a response to the opposition's rebuttal and original points.

- Individual team members will present specific arguments. This means: new argument = new speaker.

6) **CONFER:** Both teams have two minutes to make any adjustments to their closing arguments.

7) **CLOSING ARGUMENTS:** Each team will choose a member to present closing arguments. This person may be the captain; it's up to you. You will have three minutes.

- Your team should sum up your arguments, negate the opposition's points, and drive home why your fuel is the best one for our future.

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Date:



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Using the notes from your organizer, write out your Opening Arguments, Rebuttal, and Closing Arguments in NOTE FORM. This is not a script, it's more of a handy reminder of your arguments.

Opening Arguments (make your case):

Rebuttal (your best guess at how to respond to what your opponents might say):

Closing Arguments (sum up, negate opposition, drive home main point):
