

Mastering the Art of Debate with Max and Pip

Learning objective: To understand key terminology used in rhetoric and formal debate to construct persuasive arguments.

Read the front of the card to see the term. Try to define it before checking the answer on the other side. Use these terms to help Max and Pip build their debate speeches!

Rhetorical Question

A question asked to make a point rather than to get an answer, often used to make the audience think deeply.

Emotive Language

Words and phrases chosen specifically to trigger an emotional response from the audience, such as 'heart-breaking' or 'inspiring'.

Modal Verb

A verb that expresses necessity or possibility, such as 'must', 'should', 'might', or 'will'.

Counter-argument

An argument or set of reasons put forward to oppose an idea or theory developed in another argument.

Rebuttal

The act of proving a statement or theory to be wrong or false, or presenting a reason why the counter-argument is less effective.

Evidence

Information, such as statistics or facts, used to support a claim and prove that an argument is valid.

Fact vs. Opinion

A fact is a statement that can be proven true; an opinion is a person's belief or feeling which cannot be proven.

Direct Address

Speaking directly to the audience by using pronouns like 'you', 'your', or 'we' to make them feel involved.

Rule of Three

A technique where words, phrases, or clauses are grouped in threes to make an idea more memorable, e.g., 'reduce, reuse, recycle'.

Persuasive Writing

A style of writing intended to convince the reader or listener to agree with a specific point of view.