

Debating in grade 8 – part II

Reading debates

In this section, you will read and analyze different debates. This will develop skills and prepare you to write your own. Refer to the [previous activity](#) to refresh your memory regarding the “claim”, the “reason” and the “evidence”.

- 1) Read [this text](#) and answer in writing the following questions :
 - a. What is the claim and the reason of this argument?
 - b. List the evidence that was brought forward to support the argument.
 - c. Is this text persuasive enough for you? How could it be improved?
- 2) Read [this text](#) and answer in writing the following questions :
 - a. What is the claim and the reason of this argument?
 - b. How many elements are there that serve as evidence to support the argument?
 - c. How could this text be improved?
- 3) Read [this text](#) and answer in writing the following questions :
 - a. Notice how many paragraphs there are and how each paragraph fits in the structure of the text (introduction, development, conclusion).
 - b. Is the introductory paragraph clear and logical?
 - c. What are two strong points in the conclusion?
 - d. How many main arguments are there for and how many main arguments are there against zoos in this article?
 - e. Are you for or against zoos? Explain.

Writing a debate

You will now write your own debate. Refer to the document **Pros and Cons**, that you wrote when completing the previous [“fiche d’activité”](#). Select one of the propositions. Follow the following steps to write your own text :

- 1) For each of the three arguments you wrote for the proposition, brainstorm to see if you can find more ideas and more evidence to support your argument.
- 2) Organize your ideas in such a way that you will have three paragraphs for the development (one for each of the main arguments), an introduction and a conclusion.

- 3) Write a first draft of your text. You should have five paragraphs, each containing a minimum of three sentences.
- 4) Revise your text by making sure it is fluid, logical and convincing.
- 5) Correct any mistakes.
- 6) Read you text to someone and ask them for feedback.