P. Studt

Env English

Everest

Panel Debate

Students will conduct a panel debate in which they will discuss various correlating debate questions from the Everest Unit.

Overview

* Students will be divided into 2 groups and assigned a debate question.
  + Debate Questions Include the following:
    - Should Everest be closed to tourism?
    - Is Mountaineering a competitive sport?
    - Are Sherpas being exploited?
    - Do climbers have a moral obligation towards one-another in the Death Zone?
* Students will draw for the side of the debate they will be presenting (per discussion group).
  + Students will have 2-3 minutes to utilize their notes and resources to prepare for debate.
* A volunteer will begin the discussion (or a name can be drawn) and will present his/her position.
  + Responses must include the following:
    - Conviction (3 pts)
      * Student’s ability to stand behind opinion whether it is one he/she believes in or not without contradicting self.
    - Support (3 pts)
      * Student’s ability to reference examples to support opinion.
    - Validity (3 pts)
      * Student’s ability to use support that is both accurate and appropriate.
* After a student has presented position, opposing side will have an opportunity to counter argue
  + Counter Arguments (up to 2 pts each)
    - Counter arguments must successfully contradict opponents argument
* Student must maintain active listening throughout the debate
  + Debate presentation must include the following:
    - Eye contact (2 pts)
    - Posture (2 pts)
    - No distractions (2 pts)
* The group of students not presenting will be observing the debate
  + A minimum of three observations must be made and include the following:
    - Record observation (1 pt)
    - Agree or Disagree with observation (1 pt)
    - Explanation on why student agrees or disagrees with observation (3 pts)
* Total points
  + Min – 20pts
  + Max – 30 pts