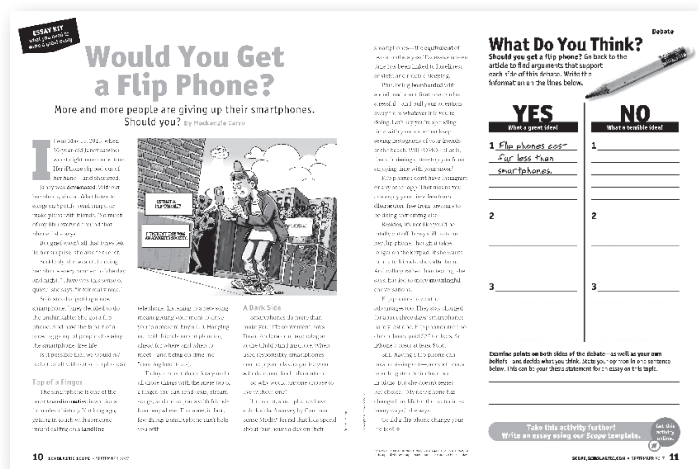


The Debate/Essay Kit

How to use this argument-writing activity in your classroom

Scope debates are a fantastic way for students to practice evaluating an argument, identifying supporting evidence, and writing a well-crafted argument essay. And students love them!



Step-By-Step Lesson Plan

For use with any Debate/Essay Kit in Scope

1 Preparing to Read

Project the **Words and Definitions** handout and preview the vocabulary.

2 Reading and Text Marking

- Read the article once as a class.
- On your whiteboard, model text marking as students mark their magazines: Use a red-colored pencil to underline details that support the “Yes” side of the debate.
- Have students work in groups to underline details that support the “No” side of the debate, this time with a blue-colored pencil.

3 Discussing Author Bias

Have students discuss the following in their groups: Does the writer show bias—that is, a preference for one side of the debate or the other? How do you know?

4 Doing the Activity

Have students fill in the “Yes/No” chart in their magazines using the strongest details that they underlined in the text.

5 Debating

Invite students to debate the topic at hand. Encourage them to use text evidence to support their opinions.

6 Writing

- Have students complete the **Write an Argument Essay** activity sheet and write their essays.
- Students should revise their essays using the **Argument-Essay Checklist**.

Common Core ELA Anchor Standards:

R.1, R.2, R.6, R.8, W.1, W.5, SL.1, L.4, L.6

For more standards info, including TEKS, go to Scope Online.

Go to scope.scholastic.com to find all of the support materials mentioned above.