



Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

Free-for-all Debate

An activity of "Right up art alley"

Street art can liven up a city and give it character. At the same time, there is a fine line between street art and vandalism. That is why some people are against street art while others are very much in favour of it.

Have a free-for-all debate in your class to help you explore the different viewpoints about street art. Unlike traditional debates which have only four speakers per team, this free-for-all format allows for any number of speakers from each side.

THE MOTION

"Street art should be allowed in all public spaces."

PREPARE FOR THE DEBATE

1. Split your class into two halves: one side **for the motion**, and the other side **against the motion**. You can either draw lots or sign up for the side you prefer on a first-come-first-served basis.
2. Get ready for the debate by having each team's members seated together, facing the other team. Each team selects a captain. During the debate, the two captains decide who gets to speak and when. The **captains** also keep track of time.
3. **Read** pages 12 to 13 of *What's Up* March 2018 to get started. As a team, **brainstorm** about the motion. Jot down key points. You may **surf** the internet to get more information. Don't write full speeches – you need the flexibility to be spontaneous and responsive to your opponents.

CONDUCT THE DEBATE

4. Every speaker gets only five minutes. The team for the motion starts and ends the debate. The teams take turns for as many rounds as your class has time for. During a team's turn, only one speaker from that team gets to speak. When you want to speak, raise your hand and wait for your captain to pick you.
5. If you wish to select winners, then the whole class votes for the three best speakers from each side. Otherwise, your class may prefer to enjoy the debate without worrying about winning (or losing). That way, everyone remains relaxed and focused on the arguments being voiced.