

## Question Time: Class debate and discussion on 3 or 4 topics.



[Question Time Theme Music](#)



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- Make sure that you speak clearly.
- Do not waffle - state your point and get to it quickly
- Look up while you speak to make it easy to hear you.
- Stay calm and focus on the power of your arguments



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- No shouting and no pointing your fingers.
- Do not make anything up - stick to what you know.
- Never be rude or personal about the other side.
- Make sure that you listen to others so that they listen carefully to you.

### What makes people effective when they debate?

**1, They speak clearly and know the detail of their points.**

**2, They have listened carefully to the points that others  
Make so that they can counter them**

**3, They are always calm and polite – they focus all their  
energy on the strength of argument.**

**4, They do not waffle and never do they make  
something up – they know what they are talking about!**

# Question Time: Class debate and discussion on 3 or 4 topics.

## Roles and responsibilities for the class Question Time:

### Roles:

- 4 Panel Members – 2 Labour and 2 Conservative
- 1 Chair Person.
- An audience – the rest of the class

Labour Panellists

Chair Person

Conservative Panellists

Audience



## Format: 3 or 4 topics for debate

The panellists can remain in place for all 3 or 4 topics - Or, the panel can be changed for each topic.

The Chair Person picks the questions from the audience and invites each panellist to respond.

Panellists and members of the audience can then come back into the debate with following up questions or ideas that they want to introduce.

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## Question Time: Topics for debate – \_\_\_\_\_

Our first topic for debate is \_\_\_\_\_.

Point 1 from my perspective

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Point 2 from my perspective

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Point 3 from my perspective

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### **Key ideas for being Left Wing;**

**Progress** = improvement

**Equality** = making lives of all more equal

**Fairness** = giving all equal opportunities

**Change** = challenging the way things are

**Government** = using the Government to help improve peoples lives

**Taxation** = taxing those with higher incomes to pay for services for everyone

### **Key ideas for being Right Wing;**

**Stability** = Keeping things the same

**Order** = everyone knowing and accepting their place

**Tradition** = celebrating the past and keeping things from the past

**Status quo** = changing very slowly and keeping things the same unless change is needed

**Government** = using Government to keep order and stop change. Not being involved in peoples lives

**Taxation** = keeping taxes as low as possible

- In the last session each of you made some notes on the topics that will be debated today.
- Before the first topic is ready to start look over the notes that you made so that you are ready to ask your question if the Chair Person picks you.
- There are some questions on each topic in your workbook but it would be better if you made up your own question using what you have learnt about the topics for Debate.

**Your Teacher will help get things started and allocate time to each topic**

# Question Time: Class debate and discussion on 3 or 4 topics. Possible questions

## Political Commentary – Welfare and Benefits

- Since 2010 the real value of welfare payments has been significantly reduced. Should Welfare payments go up to levels that allow people on benefits to live comfortably?
- There are a record number of Food Banks in the UK. Does this show that cuts to welfare have gone too far? Should Universal Credit be stopped – Labour Policy – or reformed?
- Should all adults be expected to work?

## Political Commentary - Crime

How should convicted criminals be treated in Prison? Should they be punished or should they be offered education and training so that they do not commit crime again?

What should we do about crimes linked to drugs and the drug trade that makes criminal gangs huge profits?

Should we allow the Police to have more power to stop and search those suspected of knife crime when we know that this will result in Ethnic Minority young men being targeted?

## Political Commentary - Housing

- Should there be low cost housing for those on lower Wages – or those who cannot afford to buy a home – If there should be how should this be paid for?
- Should Rough Sleepers be treated as a nuisance or be helped by Welfare payments and hostel accommodation that they would not have to pay for?
- Should the Government control rents in private housing so that those renting have more rights and pay lower rents?
- What proportion of our household income should we be expected to pay for housing?

## Political Commentary – Climate Change

- Should polluting cars and vans be taxed so that people stop driving so much? It is Diesel Cars and Van that have made Poor Air Quality the highest cause of ill health and premature death in London and other large cities.
- Should Britain make a cleaner environment ahead of higher economic growth as a national priority?
- Should consumer products that damage the environment or cannot be recycled be banned? This includes most mobile phones.



# Question Time: Class debate and discussion on 3 or 4 topics. Possible questions.

## Political Commentary - Immigration

- Should Britain be a multi cultural nation that welcomes People from across the world or a more traditional 'British' Nation?
- Should we bring people to Britain to work in our Public Services and employment sectors where workers are needed or should we only employ people who already live in Britain?
- Should those coming to Britain to work be able to use Public Services? – they pay taxes as soon as they work.

## Political Commentary – NHS/Healthcare

- Should tax payers pay higher taxes to pay for the NHS?
- Should older people contribute more to pay for the care that they receive – Old people cost the most to treat.
- Should we train more Nurses and Doctors or is it OK to bring immigrants into the NHS?
- How should we pay for the high costs of people that need residential care when they are very old?
- Should older people have to sell their homes as they do now to fund residential care?

## Political Commentary – The Economy

- Should Taxes as a proportion of National Income be 'European' at 42%-45% or American at 35%-37%?
- Should the tax system take more from higher earner to pay for improved Public Services for should we all pay more pay for better services?
- Should Britain be a low wage economy where up to 40% do not earn enough to pay any income tax or should wages be regulated to give all workers a 'living wage'?
- Should Businesses pay more in tax or should we be happy that they employ people who then pay tax?

## Political Commentary

- How many children should be in a class at Primary and at Secondary School?
- Should Private Schools be able to say that they are Charities so that they do not pay as much tax?
- Should those who go to University have to pay for going? those who go to University normally earn more later but then do pay higher taxes on their higher wages.