



Smart School Councils

DEBATE PACK

Are you passionate about sharpening your critical
thinking and speaking skills?

WOULD YOU WANT IT TO BE CHRISTMAS EVERY DAY?



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How to Use this Debate Pack

Whether you have just a few minutes or a full lesson, this Debate Pack has got you covered. Check out the Certificates at the end too.

How to find the debate video and send to teachers

1. Log in to the [Smart School Councils platform](#) using your school details.
2. Click on the blue Class Meeting Tool button in the dashboard.
3. Click on 'Next Meeting' at the top of the page.
4. To get started, click on 'click here' to browse existing questions and options.
5. If the debate topic is part of this week's question, it will appear there. Otherwise, click 'Search All' and type in the debate topic you're looking for.

Got five minutes?

Play the debate video straight through and dive right into the debate. No need to pause at the prompts. It's a quick, engaging way to get your students thinking.

Got 10/15 minutes?

Pause at the prompts in the video to explore additional ideas your class might have. Use the additional points or Power Facts if you'd like.

Want to extend to 30 minutes or a full lesson?

Check out the lesson plan and writing tasks below. There is also a full Fact Sheet with amazing further reading if your students want to go deeper on the topic.

What do the icons in the pack mean?



This is what the presenter says on the video



This is a Power Fact to explain or prompt debate that's not in the video



This is an additional debate point that's not in the video

Introduction and Brain Gym Question

Introduction



Welcome to Big Debate Club!

My name is Becky and today we are debating the question...

Would you want it to be Christmas every day?

In many Christian countries, this time of year is all about Christmas. It's such a big deal that the band Wizzard even sang, "I wish it could be Christmas every day!" But is that really a good idea?

Christmas brings people together. It's a time for sharing joy, spending time with family, and enjoying a special meal. That sounds amazing, right? But not everyone celebrates Christmas, and doing it every day could be really expensive and tiring. So... should we celebrate Christmas every single day? You decide.

Brain Gym Question

Before we get started with the debate, I have a question for you...

Which country is widely credited with starting the tradition of decorating Christmas trees?

- a) Italy
- b) Germany
- c) Canada
- d) Norway

In the UK, about 80% of people say they enjoy Christmas, down slightly from 86% fifty-plus years ago. Brits' favourite parts of Christmas: spending time with family and friends (85%), seeing friends or colleagues (81%), eating food (75%) etc. (Source: YouGov, [LINK](#))



FOR: We would want to have Christmas every day


We're going to share reasons for both sides of the debate, then it's up to you to think of the rest!

Celebrating Christmas everyday would mean daily joy!

You might be thinking that celebrating Christmas every day means daily joy and excitement. Waking up every day to presents, decorations, and festive food could make life feel like one big party – who wouldn't love that?

Having legal rights means you can make adult decisions

You could say that being together with your family everyday could be great. If Christmas happened every day, families might spend more time together, sharing stories, playing games, and enjoying each other's company.

Can you think of another reason why you might argue that we would want to have Christmas every day? 

You have to take responsibility for your actions at 18

At 18, legally you can be held responsible more fully for your actions because whether it is civil or criminal matters (issues with other people or with breaking the law), you are responsible for any consequences. At 18 you are legally responsible in many jurisdictions/areas. (Source: Office of National Statistics, [LINK](#))

You have autonomy at 18 as you no longer need parental consent

At 18 you are typically no longer under the law as a minor: parental consent is no longer required for many legal decisions. Also, many parents believe their children at the age 18 can manage finances on their own - in the UK, a survey by Virgin Money found that 60% of parents trust their child over 18 to manage their own finances. (Source: Virgin Money, [LINK](#))



AGAINST: We wouldn't want to have Christmas every day

Now let's change positions and consider why you might argue that we shouldn't have Christmas every day.




Many communities do not celebrate Christmas

You might think that many communities do not celebrate Christmas. We could argue to have a festival that is about sharing joy and food while enjoying time with family but having it be specifically Christmas means excluding so many in other religious communities.

Christmas every day would be expensive and hard

Or you could also say having Christmas every day would be expensive and hard. Celebrating Christmas daily could be hard on someone if they have no family or don't get on with their family, while also being hard on people's wallets. All that gift-giving, food, and electricity from lights could lead to serious problems.

Can you think of another reason why you might argue that we wouldn't want to have Christmas every day? 

Turning 18 does not automatically make you safe



Turning 18 doesn't mean someone is automatically safe from harm or fully capable of protecting themselves from potential harm. Some scholars argue that the switch in protections before you are 18 and after you are 18 is too abrupt, 18 year olds still need support and protection. (Source: *Taylor and Francis Online*, [LINK](#))

Most people do not leave education or enter employment until 19

In the UK, more than 50% of people do not leave full-time education or enter full-time employment until the age of 19. This suggests they don't enter into the world of adult responsibilities like paying bills, paying tax or having the responsibility of a job at the age of 18 - so they do not have the full experience of being an adult until later. (Source: *Office for National Statistics*, [LINK](#))



FactSheet: Would you want it to be Christmas every day?



Here's six key facts - three on each side - if you'd like to go a little deeper.

We would want it to be Christmas every day

You have to take responsibility for your actions at 18

At 18, legally you can be held responsible more fully for your actions because whether it is civil or criminal matters (issues with other people or with breaking the law), you are responsible for any consequences. At 18 you are legally responsible in many jurisdictions/areas. (Source: Office of National Statistics, [LINK](#))

You have autonomy at 18 as you no longer require parental consent

At 18 you are typically no longer under the law as a minor: parental consent is no longer required for many legal decisions. Also, many parents believe their children at the age 18 can manage finances on their own - in the UK, a survey by Virgin Money found that 60% of parents trust their child over 18 to manage their own finances. (Source: Virgin Money, [LINK](#))

You participate fully in society at 18

Turning 18 gives the legal right to vote and thus have a direct say in government and public policy thereby affecting all of society and the people in it. In the U.S. 2024 presidential election, about 47% of people aged 18-29 voted, showing so many take up the opportunity to participate in this adult activity. (Source: CIRCLE (Tufts), [LINK](#))

We would want it to be Christmas every day

Christmas causes a lot of emotional stress and pressure

For many, Christmas is also stressful: gift shopping, family obligations, travel, social pressures. Having that every single day could lead to burnout, guilt, anxiety. The cost worries are already real: over 40% of Britons worry about how much Christmas costs. (Source: IPSOS, [LINK](#))

Most people don't leave full time education to join employment until 19

In the UK, more than 50% of people do not leave full-time education or enter full-time employment until the age of 19. This suggests they don't enter into the world of full adult responsibilities like paying bills, paying tax or having the responsibility of a job at the age of 18 - meaning they do not have the full experience of being an adult until later. (Source: Office for National Statistics, [LINK](#))

Turning 18 does not automatically make you safe despite being 'an adult'

Turning 18 doesn't mean someone is automatically safe from harm or fully capable of protecting themselves from potential harm. Some scholars argue that the switch in protections before you are 18 and after you are 18 is too abrupt, 18 year olds still need support and protection. (Source: Taylor and Francis Online, [LINK](#))

Sentence Starters

POINT

LEMON & HERB: One reason why I (agree/disagree) with this debate is because...

MEDIUM: One point I have for this debate is...

HOT: You could say that...

EVIDENCE

LEMON & HERB: One way I can prove my point is through this example...

MEDIUM: I can show this works through the fact that...

HOT: I know this because...

EXPLANATION

LEMON & HERB: The evidence I have discussed above proves my point as...

MEDIUM: This example proves my point because...

HOT: Therefore, this proves my point as...

LINK

LEMON & HERB: All together, this answers the debate question asked by...

MEDIUM: This point answers the overall question because...

HOT: These ideas answer the debate as...





**Post your debate on
social media!**

SHARE YOUR VOICE

We shout out the best opinions each week

#BIGDEBATECUB

TWITTER @SSCCTV

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DEBATER OF THE WEEK

We are proud to present this certificate to...

For debating fairly, respectfully and persuasively. Well done!

Share a snap or video @SSCCTY on Twitter for a national shoutout and a prize!



Greg Sanderson

Founder, Smart School Councils

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CLASS MEETING LEADER OF THE WEEK

We are proud to present this certificate to...

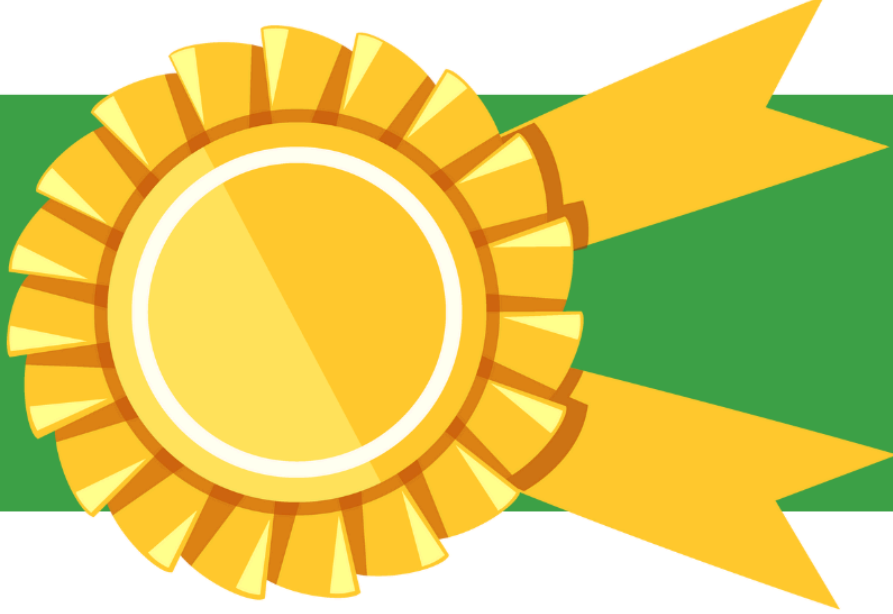
For showing skill and confidence in leading today's Class Meeting.

Share a snap or video @SSCCTY on Twitter for a national shoutout and a prize!



Greg Sanderson

Founder, Smart School Councils



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BEST IDEA OF THE WEEK

We are proud to present this certificate to...

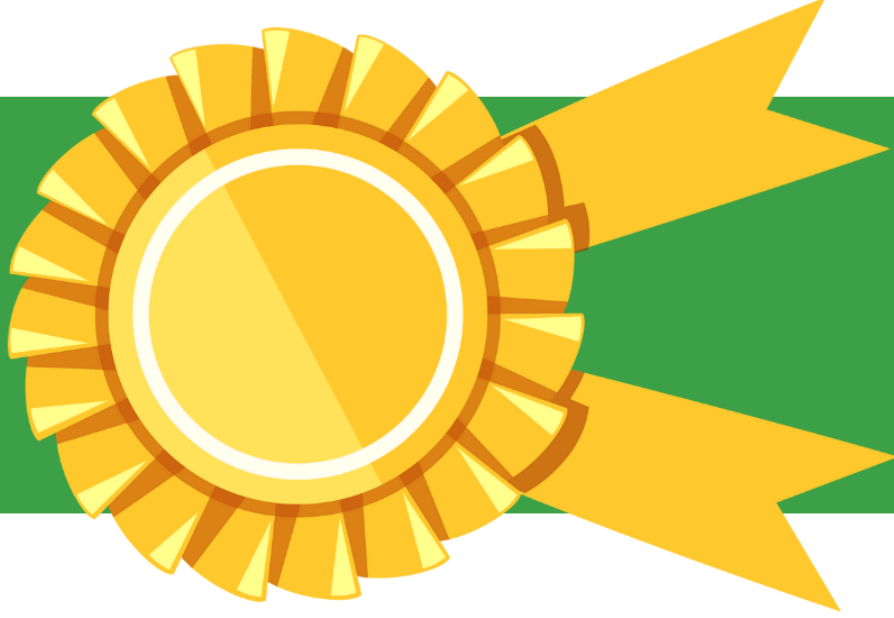
For speaking up with a great new idea on today's topic. Amazing.

Share a snap or video @SSCCTY on Twitter for a national shoutout and a prize!



Greg Sanderson

Founder, Smart School Councils



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