

Debating

Pre-task:

Watch a [video](#) on 'Social media and the end of gender'.

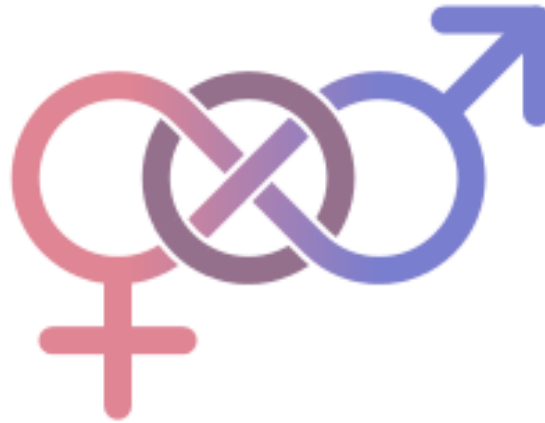


Image 1

Task 1:

Decide with your partner who is going to defend which position:

A: Social media can work towards eliminating gender stereotypes.

B: Social media reinforces gender stereotypes.

Take a few minutes to prepare your arguments. Then, in turns, each side will have two minutes to defend his/her position. Finally, both can respond to each other's arguments.

Stating an opinion:

In my opinion ...

I (don't) think that ...

The way I see it ...

My position is the following ...

Sequencing:

Firstly ..., secondly ..., my third point is that ...

The first point I would like to raise is this ...

The first good reason to ... is that ...

To begin, I think that ...

Last but not least ...

Reacting to your partner's opinion:

I see your point, but I think ...

That's all very interesting, but the problem is that ...

I'm afraid I can't quite agree with your point.

Disagreeing:

Excuse me, but that's not quite correct.

Sorry, I just have to disagree with your point.

Let me just respond to that, please.
I'd like to take issue with what you just said.

Summarising:
To recap the main points ...
In summary, I want to point out that ...

Task 2:

Watch some of this [video](#) on 'National vs. Globalism: the new political divide'. Decide with your partner who is going to defend which position:

A: We should deglobalise the economy and turn it back into a national economy.

B: We should globalise the political system.

Follow the same structure and try to use some of the expressions suggested in Task 1.

Follow-up activity:

Suggest another controversial topic for debate within your academic discipline: try to find a related video or short text, or just explain the controversy to your partner. Decide with your partner who is going to defend each position and hold a debate on the chosen topic.

Sources

Video 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZR4LdnFGzPk>

Image 1 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sex_differences_in_humans

Video 2 https://www.ted.com/talks/yuval_noah_harari_nationalism_vs_globalism_the_new_political_divide#t-351977