Lesson Title: Hosting a Presidential Debate

Handout #3: Debate Ballot

Topic: “Resolved: that ____________________________________________”

Affirmative Team Members           Negative Team Members
1.                                      1.
2.                                      2.
3.                                      3.
4.                                      4.

Sequence of the Debate
Follow the numbers for proper order of speakers. This order balances advantage during the debate.

Affirmative Team         Time         Negative Team         Time
1. Opening Statement     3 min         2. Opening Statement   3 min
_________________ Debater’s Name  ____________ Debater’s Name
3. Rebuttal Argument     3 min         4. Rebuttal Argument   3 min
_________________ Debater’s Name  ____________ Debater’s Name
5. Question Session      5 min*        6. Question Session    5 min*
_________________ Debater’s Name  ____________ Debater’s Name
7. Summary               3 min         8. Summary             3 min
_________________ Debater’s Name  ____________ Debater’s Name

*Debater answers 4 questions, one from each member of the opposite team; if time, also answers questions from the floor.

The winning team was: (Circle one.)  AFFIRMATIVE   NEGATIVE

This team won the debate because: (List one argument which convinced you that this side won.)

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
When you choose the winner, consider only the evidence presented during today’s debate. Your own personal opinions about the topic must be set aside, so that you may judge only the relative strength of each team’s arguments.

Extra Credit: Look out for the misleading use of techniques of persuasion and for logical fallacies. If you catch any debater using one of these, quote the statement below and identify the logical flaw and you will receive extra credit.

Statement: __________________________________________________________

Logical Fallacy/ Technique of Persuasion: (Circle one)

- Appeal to Authority
- Appeal to Antiquity
- Appeal to Force
- Hasty Generalization
- Appeal to Popularity
- Loaded Question
- Name Calling
- Slippery Slope
- Affinity Fraud
- Fact as Opinion
- False Dilemma
- Opinion as Fact
- Attacking the Person (“ad hominem”)