

NAME: _____

CLASS: _____ **No.:** _____ **DATE:** _____/_____/_____ **GRADE:** _____

ONE-MINUTE TALKS

1. Put these cards face down.
2. Take turns choosing a card.
3. You must speak about the topic for a minute without stopping.

Gun Control

- The debate over gun control centers around whether citizens should be able to own and carry guns. An argument should consider the risks that come with owning a gun and the possibility of guns falling into the wrong hands or being used to harm someone in cases other than self-defense.



Stem Cell Research

- Stem cell research can be used to help discover cures for different illnesses and cancers and may also be used to replace cells in cases of brain and spinal cord injuries. While stem cells can come from adult cells and cord cells, embryonic cells are at the centre of controversy. Extracting cells from an embryo kills that embryo. The questions that must be answered when talking about this topic are: Is an embryo a future human life? If so, does the greater good outweigh the taking of a future life?



Climate Change

- Previously known as global warming, proponents of the climate change debate argue that humans have a major impact on the environment and climate. Those who speak against climate change argue that the impact of humans is negligible and climate changes are part of a natural geological cycle.



Legalization of Gay Marriage

- At the center of the issue are what is the true definition of marriage and whether gay couples should be given the same rights and benefits as married heterosexual couples.



Illegal Immigration

- The debate about illegal immigration focuses on what measures a country should take to prevent illegal immigrants from entering the country and what should happen to them if they are found. Should the government implement more policies to prevent and punish illegal immigrants or should the immigration policies be more lenient?



Mobile Phone Use in School

- Schools often ban mobile phones to keep students focused in class. Should mobile phones be banned in schools? The debate focuses on whether students should be allowed to have mobile phones for cases of an emergency or if allowing mobile phones can lead to cases of cheating, harassment and general disruptions.



http://teens.lovetoknow.com/High_School_Debate_Topics (adapted and abridged), accessed in January 2014