

## Social Issues Argumentative Speech

### Step 1: Brainstorming

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Browse the list of current issues below. Under the "Ranking" column, number the topics in order of their importance to you/your life. Under "Initial thoughts" write what you know about that particular topic. After researching your top 2-3 topics, write what you learn in each box.

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| Should college be free?  |
| Should the electoral college be eliminated?  |
| Should schools be able to limit freedom of speech?   |
| Is the death sentence an efficient form of punishment?   |
| Should juveniles be given the death penalty?   |
| Is a college education still worth it?   |
| Should convicted felons be allowed to vote once they're free?  |
| Should vaccines be mandated by the government?   |
| Is organic food truly beneficial?  |
| Should the adoption process be as complex/pricey as it is?   |
| Is obesity a disease?  |
| Do cell phones have a place in the classroom?  |
| Is school suspension an effective form of discipline?  |
| Should punishment be more severe for distracted drivers?   |
| Should dual enrollment hours be limited?   |
| Should businesses be required to provide paid leave for full-time employees during the birth of a child or sick family member? |
| Should the government stop construction of the Dakota Access pipeline?   |
| Should the government regulate social media sites, as a means to prevent fake news and misinformation?                         |

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| Should the Supreme Court be reformed to include more seats and term limits on judges?                    |
| Should charter schools exist?  |
| Should school vouchers exist?  |
| Should students be allowed to attend any school they want if they can provide transportation?            |
| Should the government break up Amazon, Facebook and Google?  |
| Should social media companies ban political advertising?   |
| Should the high school dropout age be raised?  |
| Does celebrity culture have a positive or negative influence on society?                                 |
| Is the widespread increased use of technology good for young children—or does it harm their development? |
| Does diversity in media matter?  |
| Is homeschooling good for students?  |
| Do our schools today adequately prepare students for the real world?                                     |
| Is homework harmful or helpful?  |
| Is voter suppression a legitimate threat to democracy?   |
| Should the government monitor have tighter restrictions on additives in food?                            |
| Should healthcare be free for everyone?  |

Are there any additional topics you would add to this list? (see teacher for approval)

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**Step 1: Brainstorming:** Choose the FOUR topics that interest you the most and use them to complete the table below.

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| <p><b>Topic #1:</b></p> <p>What would be your argument?</p> <p>What are three reasons you could use to back up your argument?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1.</li><li>2.</li><li>3.</li></ol> <p>What might be an argument someone could make against you?</p> <p>Why is this topic pertinent in your life?</p> | <p><b>Topic #2:</b></p> <p>What would be your argument?</p> <p>What are three reasons you could use to back up your argument?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1.</li><li>2.</li><li>3.</li></ol> <p>What might be an argument someone could make against you?</p> <p>Why is this topic pertinent in your life?</p> |
| <p><b>Topic #3:</b></p> <p>What would be your argument?</p> <p>What are three reasons you could use to back up your argument?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1.</li><li>2.</li><li>3.</li></ol> <p>What might be an argument someone could make against you?</p> <p>Why is this topic pertinent in your life?</p> | <p><b>Topic #4:</b></p> <p>What would be your argument?</p> <p>What are three reasons you could use to back up your argument?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1.</li><li>2.</li><li>3.</li></ol> <p>What might be an argument someone could make against you?</p> <p>Why is this topic pertinent in your life?</p> |

