

Argumentum Event – Guideline Sheet

Purpose

The Argumentum Event builds students' **critical thinking, collaboration, and debate skills**. Teams analyze real-world topics, construct evidence-based arguments, and defend their positions.

Team Structure

- Teams of **3–4 students**
- Grouped by **grade level**
- **All members must participate**

Event Format

1. Topic Assignment

Teams receive a grade-appropriate debate topic or question.

2. Preparation Time

Teams work together to:

- Develop a clear **claim (position)**
- Gather **supporting evidence**
- Prepare **counterarguments and rebuttals**

3. Presentation

Teams present their argument:

- Speak clearly and respectfully
- Support ideas with evidence

4. Defense Phase

- Judges or opponents ask questions
- Teams must defend and explain their reasoning

Judging Criteria

Teams are scored in the following areas:

- Clarity of Argument
- Use of Evidence
- Critical Thinking
- Collaboration
- Communication Skills
- Response & Defense

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Scoring

- Judges use the official **Argumentum Score Card**
- Each category is scored individually
- Total points determine rankings

Rules & Expectations

- Maintain **respectful and professional behavior**
- Ensure **equal participation** among team members
- Stay within all **time limits**
- Conduct research **outside of AI**
- Inappropriate behavior may result in **point deductions**