



Bayview High

Making the Grade Chapter 8: Out of the Dark

Working with Words—Debating

Debating is an extra-curricular activity or a technique used in a subject area such as social studies. During a debate, two individuals or two teams present opposite sides of an issue before an audience or judges. Each side is allowed the same amount of time to present a position and to “rebut” or speak against the position. The judges then determine the winner.

Choose one of the following topics and give the positive and negative positions of each issue on the chart:

1. Free university or college should be provided for everyone.
2. Smoking rooms should be provided in all public places.
3. All students should be required to take fine arts classes (music, art or drama).
4. Guns should be outlawed.
5. The age for getting a driver’s license should be twenty.

Positive Position	Facts	Negative Position	Facts