

Debate Topic: Is it ethical to clone humans?

4.3.4: *Communicate and defend scientific data and/or claims both in oral and/or written form (e.g. short written work, presentation, lab report, and/or research paper, etc.) including appropriately formatted works cited.*

Directions: In accordance with the topic stated above, you will be assigned to a debating team to participate in an argumentative debate that you will present in front of the class. Within your teams, you are to work together to create an argument as to whether or not it is ethical to clone humans. Using credible sources, find supporting evidence to **prove** your claim and to **disprove** your opponent’s claim. Be sure to work together so that all members of your team have adequate knowledge of the position and arguments that you will be proposing.

Debate Rules:

1. No put-downs.
2. You must raise your hand if it is not your time to speak.
3. Groups must not interrupt their opponents.
4. You must not talk or whisper while a speaker is talking. If you need to inform the current speaker from your group of critical information, without causing disruption, you may write it down on a piece of paper and pass the information to the speaker.

Debate Procedure:

Team YES	Team NO
<i>Clear Statement of position in Opening Statement.</i>	<i>Clear Statement of position in Opening Statement.</i>
<i>Argument/Reasons,</i> Presenter 1 – Prove argument with specific evidence. Presenter 2 – Prove argument with specific evidence. Presenter 3 – Prove argument with specific evidence.	<i>Argument/Reasons,</i> Presenter 1 – Prove argument with specific evidence. Presenter 2 – Prove argument with specific evidence. Presenter 3 – Prove argument with specific evidence.
<i>Summary of main points.</i>	<i>Summary of main points.</i>
<i>Team Meeting</i>	<i>Team Meeting</i>
<i>Rebuttal,</i> Presenter 1 – Disprove opponent with specific evidence. Presenter 2 – Disprove opponent with specific evidence.	<i>Rebuttal,</i> Presenter 1 – Disprove opponent with specific evidence. Presenter 2 – Disprove opponent with specific evidence.
<i>Closing Statement.</i>	<i>Closing Statement.</i>

Deciding together, appropriately assign responsibilities to individual group members for each portion of the debate. Every member must be assigned at least 1 responsibility, but are encouraged to take on more than 1 if necessary. The steps are as follows:

Opening Statement Presenter: Opening Statement for both sides: 1-2 minutes each.

You should be a person who is organized and provides good explanations while you speak. This portion should be 1-2 minutes long and should state your group's position and the argument you will be proposing. Make sure you mention your main arguments, but keep it simple and to the point. For example, "Our group believes that it is not ethical to clone humans because of Reason 1, Reason 2, and Reason 3."

Name of Opening Statement Presenter: _____

Argument/Reason Presenters: Arguments for both sides: 3-5 minutes each.

You should be a practical person who is truthful about your opinions and points of view. This portion should be present your group's main arguments. Each presenter should give specific details that **prove** Reason 1, Reason 2, and Reason 3 using the primary documents as evidence.
(3 members)

Names of Argument Presenters: _____

Summary Presenter: Summary for both sides: 1 minute each.

You should be a person who is organized and provides good explanations while you speak. This portion should be 1 minute long and should restate/summarize the main arguments your group has just made that **prove** your group's position.

Name of Summary Presenter: _____

Rebuttal Presenters: Rebuttals for both sides: 2 minutes each.

You should be a person who pays good attention to detail, has strong opinions, and likes to argue with a well-planned defense. You should have answers prepared that will be used to respond to your opponents' questions. Imagine that you are from the other team and determine what questions may be asked of your team. You must also take notes as the other team is presenting their arguments in order to respond to every argument using specific information to **disprove** the opposing team.
(2 members)

Names of Rebuttal Presenters: _____