

REFLECTION

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5 Important Points for Debaters to Remember

#1 Always know your case inside out and make sure your case theory is consistent amongst all the speakers.

#2 Never take an unreasonable stance in your debate. The more reasonable your argument, the less your opponent will be able to attack it.

#3 Preparation is key. You need to have thought through every angle of the motion and prepared for every possible argument your opponent might raise.

#4 It's about quality, not quantity. You don't have to raise 101 points to win the debate. Focus on 3 or 4 solid arguments and develop those fully.

#5 A debate is about the exchange of ideas. Don't just dismiss your opponent's arguments. Engage them on their level and explain how their argument is less sound compared to yours.

Question: How does a debate work as a platform for creative minds?

Khadijah: I was never a debater as a youth, but I have argued many applications in Court as a lawyer. A debate allows you to see a problem from many different angles. Once you are able to have that "bird's eye view" of the problem, you can decide on the best way to attack it. A debate therefore forces you to be creative because you are forced to see a problem from angles you may not have seen before. 

