



Arkansas State Communication Association

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### Oral Communication Units and Activities

## Argumentation

#### Students will be able to

- explain the differences in propositions of fact, value, and policy.
- use oral argumentation in a variety of settings.
- gather evidence from a variety of sources.
- participate in a debate.
- use logic to reason clearly.

#### Strand

1. Argumentation defined
  - Claim + warrant = argument
  - Propositions for argumentation
    - Propositions of fact
    - Propositions of value
    - Propositions of policy
2. Use of proof in argumentation
  - Evidence
    - Evaluating evidence
      - Evaluation of evidence source
      - Evaluation of evidence content
        - Fact vs. opinion
        - Causal vs. descriptive evidence
    - Gathering evidence
    - Use of evidence in debates
      - Burden of proof
      - Burden of proving
      - Burden of presumption
  - Logic
    - Aristotle's logical guidelines
    - Types of reasoning
      - Inductive
      - Deductive
      - Use of logic to expose fallacies

## **Activities**

1. Take notes and watch videos of several types of argumentation situations (a business organization meeting, a trial, a legislative debate, a political debate).
2. Using newspapers and newscasts, students write propositions of fact, value, and policy.
3. Divide students into groups of two or four and have them prepare and present debates using propositions of policy or value which were written in the classroom.
4. Have all class members view classroom debates or video tapes of debates and judge the debates to determine the outcome.
5. Have students prepare and debate national high school policy and Lincoln/Douglas topics.

## **Framework**

- 3.1.10 Summarize and paraphrase ideas of others.
- 3.1.15 Talk about current events.
- 3.1.23 Work collaboratively to generate ideas and solve problems.
- 3.1.24 Express and logically defend one's ideas.
- 3.1.26 Participate in interviews, discussions and/or debates.

## **Class Activities**

Truth Or Consequences: Debate Propositions Of Fact, Value And Policy

Judge And Jury

Four Corners

Classroom Policy Debate

Assume - Make An 'Ass' Out Of 'U' And 'Me'