

# 7. Choosing a Topic to Debate

There are several things to consider when deciding on an issue or topic to debate.

## Contemporary issues

You could debate a contemporary issue that is in the news and/or is important to your students.

For example:

- Should the voting age be lowered to 16?
- Should everyone eat a vegetarian diet?

## A-Level topics

Alternatively, you could debate an issue related to the topics your students are studying at A-level. If you decide to do this, you may find it useful to look at past exam papers and compile a list of potential topics for debate.

You may want to debate a contemporary issue which still links to your students' studies. For example, if your students are studying the Stuarts in A-level History and they are looking at the execution of Charles I and the Interregnum, having a debate about whether the monarchy should be abolished will allow them to draw on their historical knowledge to debate a current issue.

Whichever you decide, you may find it useful to come up with a list of potential topics for debate (either by yourself or with your students) and then have a class vote to choose. If you are running a debating club that's open to students from any subject, it may be best to select contemporary issues.

If you are stuck for ideas, you'll find lots of ideas for topics to debate on the internet.