

Week 14 Debate Activity (Cultural Appropriation)

Issue: cultural appropriation in the arts is morally and/or aesthetically problematic. Pro or con?

1. Opening statements (~26 minutes)

STEP 1: Take ~10 minutes to prepare a 5-minute opening statement. It should include:

1. A clarification of the issue under debate
2. An explanation of the position being defended (pro or con)
3. One or two reasons to accept the position being defended

Pick two students from your group to present to the rest of the class. One of them will have ~4 minutes to explain the issue/position, and the other will have ~4 minutes to present reasons for accepting it, for a total of ~8 minutes.

STEP 2: Each side will have ~8 minutes to deliver an opening statement. Everyone should listen carefully and use the rubric to take notes during this process.

2. Rebuttals (~15 minutes)

STEP 1: Each side will have ~5 minutes to discuss their notes and prepare objections to the opposing side. Pick two **new** students from your group to deliver those objections. One of them will have ~2.5 minutes to deliver at least one objection, and the other will have ~2.5 minutes to deliver at least one other objection, for a total of ~5 minutes.

STEP 2: Each side will have ~5 minutes to deliver a rebuttal. Everyone should listen carefully and use the rubric to take notes during this process, because an ideal closing statement will attempt to respond to objections delivered during this rebuttal phase.

3. Closing statements (~6 minutes)

Each side will have ~3 minutes to offer a final defense of their position, including a response to the rebuttals. Any student in the group may volunteer to do this.

4. Vote (~2 minutes)