

CHAPTER 1

Why do debating?

In this chapter we're going to learn why you should do debating.

I'm going to persuade you (because debating is all about persuading) that debating is one of the best things you can do. It's a chapter which, like debating, is full of *because*s.

• Why do debating? •

So.

You're going to stand up in front of a room full of people you don't know - or, worse, a room full of people you do know - and say a lot of things you don't believe in. Then the people sitting opposite you are going to tell you why everything you just said is wrong. They're going to find fault with every word that just came out of your mouth. And, when it's all over, someone else is going to tell you what you did wrong and why the people sitting opposite you are better than you. In other words, you're going to be a debater.

Why would you want to do that?

Here are seven answers to that question:

1. **Because you do debating all the time anyway.**
2. **Because debating will make you more confident.**
3. **Because debating will help you to do better at school.**
4. **Because debating will make you lots of friends.**
5. **Because debating will help you to understand other people better.**
6. **Because debating will help you to understand the world better.**
7. **Because debating will save the world.**

Convinced yet? No, I didn't think so.

In true debating style I now have to make my case. I have to give reasons for my *because*s.

Here goes...