

# Vaping debate

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**This task is about examples of debating techniques.**

Following are extracts from a debate on the issue of vaping.

Read the statement in speech marks (") then provide an explanation of what the words are doing.

The first one is done for you.

**Attacking the person:** "We have just had to suffer through a slight and silly argument from the rather sleepy affirmative team."

**Explanation:**

This is criticising the speaker instead of what they have said.

**Limited example:** "My uncle vapes regularly and he has perfect health."

**Explanation:**

**Empathy/empathise:** "Now we all know Hone. We like him and we're proud of his achievements, but he is just one person."

**Explanation:**

**Empty argument:** "If everyone in the world stopped vaping, then ..."

**Explanation:**

**Rebuttal:** "Another point they made was that vaping is just a phase teenagers go through. This is not right because ... "

**Explanation:**

**Refute:** "They said that there are no warnings about the dangers of vaping. That is not true. The Health NZ website has information about the risks of vaping."

**Explanation:**

**Irrelevant conclusion:** "Let me conclude: I don't vape, and my debating teammates don't vape, so that proves our case."

**Explanation:**

**Name a situation, apart from debating, in which an understanding of these features of argument could help you.**

i) Situation

ii) Explain how understanding these features could help you.