

Vaping debate

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.