

Debating techniques II

This task is about debating techniques and procedures.



Below are extracts from a debate that **"School is the best time of our lives."**
Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow.

The extract contains bracketed letters **(A)**. The questions refer to these letters.

Speaker one

Let us begin with asking what is a school? In a few words, schools are institutions where instruction is given. **(A)** We attend to get educated and . . .

Interjection

Institutions like a prison? **(B)**

Speaker one (continues)

We aim to prove that now is the best time of our lives. There are three key reasons why school is the best time of our lives: firstly the training of our minds, secondly the development of life skills, and thirdly we have time to have fun and enjoy life . . . **(C)**

Speaker two

Let's look at what these affirmative team losers are saying with their oh so serious, yet pathetic, ideas. In fact, they are appalling – starting from their retro school uniform to their ugly haircuts. **(D)**

Let's unpack some of their arguments. They say school is cool because they find it so – that's just personal opinion and has no impact on the wider issues. **(E)**

What has not been addressed is why do schools seem to do everything in a rush? Why do teachers have no time for us? Why do we have irrelevant subjects? **(F)**

a) This is part of the affirmative's opening speech. **(A)** What should the speaker do next?

b) Is this a successful interjection? **(B)**

Yes

No

Give a reason for your answer.

c) How is the speaker trying to make sure the listeners follow the argument? **(C)**

d) Why might there be an interjection at this point? **(D)**

e) What key task is the speaker doing here? **(E)**

f) What speaking technique is speaker two using at this point of the debate? (F)

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