Benefits of Debates

1. Debates can help you practice and demonstrate your critical thinking skills.

2. Debates can help you learn to discuss complicated topics calmly, clearly, and competently

3. Debates can help you cultivate your persuasion skills

4. Debates help deepen your understanding of topics when you "actively" listen to opposing views

5. Debates help sharpen communication skills – you can learn to say more with fewer words

6. Debates can be mind-opening – "actively" listening to opposing opinions can help you think out of the box – they can offer a broader range of alternatives, excite imagination, and ignite creativity

7. Debates help remind you that while business is about competition it is also about compromise and cooperation

8. Debate teams can offer a sense of comradeship, demonstrating the value of teamwork.

9. To those with a truly open-mind, debates can broaden and deepen reasoning and communicating skills. They can enhance the ability to think and communicate clearly and quickly.

Debates are not...

1. Debates are not wars

2. Debates are not arguments

3. Debates do not mean one team must win and one must lose (both can be successful or both can be losers)