

Oral exam topics -advanced level

Useful expressions for the debate part of the advanced level exam

Stating an opinion

- In my opinion...
- The way I see it...
- If you want my honest opinion....
- According to Lisa...
- As far as I'm concerned...
- If you ask me...

Asking for an opinion

- What's your idea?
- What are your thoughts on all of this?
- How do you feel about that?
- Do you have anything to say about this?
- What do you think?
- Do you agree?
- Wouldn't you say?

Expressing agreement

- I agree with you 100 percent.
- I couldn't agree with you more.
- That's so true.
- That's for sure.
- **(slang)** Tell me about it!
- You're absolutely right.
- Absolutely.
- That's exactly how I feel.
- Exactly.
- I'm afraid I agree with James.
- I have to side with Dad on this one.
- No doubt about it.
- **(agree with negative statement)** Me neither.
- **(weak)** I suppose so./I guess so.

- You have a point there.
- I was just going to say that.

Expressing disagreement

- I don't think so.
- **(strong)** No way.
- I'm afraid I disagree.
- **(strong)** I totally disagree.
- I beg to differ.
- **(strong)** I'd say the exact opposite.
- Not necessarily.
- That's not always true.
- That's not always the case.
- No, I'm not so sure about that.

Interruptions

- Can I add something here?
- Is it okay if I jump in for a second?
- If I might add something...
- Can I throw my two cents in?
- Sorry to interrupt, but...
- **(after accidentally interrupting someone)** Sorry, go ahead. **OR** Sorry, you were saying...
- **(after being interrupted)** You didn't let me finish.

Stop giving marks for PE

For

- Not everyone has the same physical abilities
- (Eszti)some p.e. teachers are very strict, others just let students play all, so it is unfair as students have to work for good marks on drastically different levels
- PE has almost no real use because no students actually care about PE therefore they do not participate with enthusiasm making it a waste of time
- If someone would get a bad mark it will certainly have an impact on their overall grading ratio

-Bad marks can make them feel bad about themselves

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Against

- pupils will get even more lazy
- pupils physique will worsen
- Universal rating of PE skills for everyone
- Humanity's obesity is getting worse therefore you should exercise in a way
- (Eszti)some students only move because of their p.e. class, they need the motivation of getting good grades or they will be unhealthy
- everyone should do some kind of exercise to stay healthy
- If yall have to got to pe you might as well get some grades

Living in a block of flat is *better* than living in a house with a garden

Name	For	Against
Eszti	- - -	-having your own outside space will always have a positive impact on your life -everyone needs fresh air -you can lay down and just enjoy the sun and the sounds of nature
Levi	- - -	-you can plant your own vegetables or fruits in a garden -you can host grill parties or just grill alone -you can have animals living in your garden
Dani	-post soviet depression vibes - -	-living with people on every side of your house ain't fun - -
Máté	- - -	-- -
Oresztész	- -You could go anywhere in the city without having a car and it doesn't take that much time -Shorter time to decorate at christmas or at parties	- -If you live next to a busy street there is much noise even at night -It might not be fit for a family -
Matyi	- - -	-its not - -
Tomi	-you dont have to mannage the garden -cleaning takes much shorter time	-u dont have enough privacy -u cant have a dog or its not gonna enjoy being in such a small place

	-u dont need to spend that much money buying the flat	-parking is difficult if u dont have reserved parking space
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Internet should be banned

Name	For	Against
Eszti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -today's generations grew up in a world where internet is used constantly, such a harsh change would be unbearable for them -internet has many positive sides to it such as making paying, travelling, shopping and communicating easier -people would just lose any kind of contact with the outside world
Levi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -people wouldn't know about anything going on in the world -society would collapse -in general people would know/learn much less
Dani	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - -

	-	-
Máté	- - -	-life would be unbearable - -
Oresztész	-It could help stopping criminals especially who kidnap kids - -	- -And also it is easier to cheat on tests
Matyi	- - -	- - -

Tomi	-it would stop many criminals. - -	-too many things relies on internet., - -
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Parents should always treat their children as equals

	For	Against
Matyi	Kids can have a better and closer relationship with their parents if they are not that strict	Kids do need control at their early age and someone has to show them whats right and whats not.
Oresztész	If you favor one over the other the kid you don't favor will either get jealous and blame his brother for his failures or will have no confidence and no self-respect	Kids have different abilities that is asking equal goals from them you either give advantage to one or make the other chanceless
Tomi	The parents should always equalise their children otherwise there will be no balance between the two or three kids	If there is a boy and a girl the boy should get more strict than the girl but it could be all the way around in different circumstances

Levi	Children always do what they see and in the most important time of their development they learn almost everything from their parents thus if they see their parents not treating people equally they will too, not	Circumstances might occur which can lead to situations where parents should not treat their children as equals in order to teach them valuable life lessons
Eszti		Children's way of thinking is obviously undeveloped until a certain age, so they do need to be guided. Of course every child is different and depending on their intelligence, some can be quite independent from a very young age. Although I do think that the opinion or way of thinking of a child not mentioning their decisions, should be respected (so they get prepared for real life when they have to figure out things). - They need to be introduced to the right ways of doing things and because of this they get treated differently.
Máté	You can pull out the oldest trick in the book by calling the "treatment" fair. I think this would decrease the chance of creating a strain on the relationship.	Well, in certain situations you just have to make your point by treating them differently.
Dani		

One-child families are apparently better off

Name	For	Against
Levi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Financially families with an only child are better off -They can pay more attention to their child (which parent do less and less) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Having a sibling is very important in my opinion because we learn many things from or by growing together with them that our parents cannot teach us -even if the parents do not have (enough) time for their children the sibling will always be there -sibling can form a sort of "alliance" and defend each other if the parents are being unfair
Eszti	Money-wise this could be true. You need less money to bring up one child so this does make it easier. Also you may get more attention as your parent's free time isn't divided between you and your siblings.	I'm rather against it because even though it is harder to maintain a bigger family financially, you get much more prepared for life. You have siblings to play with and even if your parents are busy you still have your siblings there. Yes, it can get very annoying at some times but you learn to share and to live together with others.
Oresztész	Keeping alive one kid is hard enough you don't need more all jokes aside you shouldn't have more kids if your budget doesn't allow you	
Tomi	Im the only child in the family and i do really like it.i can talk a lot with my parents and its probably easier for them as well	The kids doesn't have their mates to play at home
Matyi	Parents with one child can pay more attention and put more money in their child's future	Having a brother for me is like having a very close friend with the same views so you don't want to miss out on that

Levi		
Máté	Finance plays a huge role in family planning. I believe that if you can't guarantee a high quality of life for more than one children you are just better off pouring your resources into a single child. This option also allows you to retire earlier, as you don't have to deal with financing colleges for two.	Sibling benefit from each other's presence, and their interaction between each other could lead to enormously important life lessons.
Dani		

Cooperation is more important than competition

Name	For	Against
Dani		I believe competition is more important than cooperation because without competition there's no incentive to improve, if we base ourselves on cooperation then "someone will help out anyways"
Máté		I think that competition can bring out the best and the worst in people, and it can also lead to cooperation. (like in a team game) I like competition because my drive to do something skyrockets and I don't slack out on certain things because I'm really monitoring my performance. By including cooperation in a competitive environment, you can see some amazing results if the people in the group are fit

		for the task.
Matyi		
Levi		
Eszti	<p>Encouraging people to work together and help each other rather than try to beat one another will always have a positive outcome. Competitions can be very cruel and unfair. Challenging yourself is important but on competitions some people tend to get too competitive and feel unsatisfied if they don't win. Challenging each other to do better and to work harder is quite an experience and you can learn so much from other people. You can also give knowledge and inspire people, which I think is quite reassuring in itself (giving inspiration and getting inspiration). With this cooperation people can grow together.</p>	
Oresztész	<p>In today's world cooperation is key, companies usually search for "team players". In a team there are multiple personalities and abilities which makes the work easier by a lot compared to working alone against others. When you are working in a team you don't have to push yourself too hard i mean in a unhealthy way, you can share work with your partners.</p>	
Tomi	It depends on the person	

	<p>cause there are people like to race but others like to work in teams. In my opinion race can only improve everyone cause if u wanna beat somebody u will have to work hard. On the other hand sharing the work between each other can only improve the quality if the product u make.</p>	

Name	For	Against
K.Dani		
Bö. Máté	<p>With cooperation it's easier to work and in a team you usually feel better while you working than alone and if the team members have different abilities they can supplement each other</p>	
Bálint	<p>With cooperation it is easier to reach your dreams, you are having more fun when doing/playing something together with others as a team, and I believe that having fun is the most important when playing a game.</p>	
Gyöngyi	<p>Cooperation is more likely to help with each others improvement in building up personality, because competition may do more harm than good with tearing each others apart</p>	

	with criticism.	
Ádám	Cooperation is much more important than competition because people from all walks of life are getting in touch with each other in different activities. If you have to work with somebody that means you need to be cooperative and helpful. Both of you have to be creative and put some hard work in the project. If you have to choose, well choose the cooperation work because you'll have time for competitions any time.	
Andris		If i have to choose i would say that competition is more important than cooperation. Competition can give the most lazy person a goal to do the work they were assigned to. Cooperation is important but if you choose a bad partner than that person can slow you down and hold you back. In life i think there will be more time when 2 person decide to compete with each other than cooperate with each other.
Bene	In my opinion cooperation is more important. Everybody have to learn how to work with somebody else, or in groups. You can learn more abilities in cooperation	

Mixed ability classes are the best for the students

Name	For	Against
Dani		In my opinion having a class full of students bearing about the same abilities encourages competition, which is known to bring improvement.
Máté		No, it is not. My living example is our German class, where no one is really on the same level. We hardly get anything done in a class because we always have to be revising something, for example a grammar structure. I think separating the class into different groups would benefit everyone, because they would “play” on the same field, thus allowing the students to improve at a faster rate.
M atyi		
Levi		
Eszti	Mixed ability classes are great because you can help each other. Let’s say you’re not so good at maths but a fellow student is outstanding, this way they can help you out. It works the other way around too, you may be good at languages, so you can help your classmates who struggle with them. If everybody had equal abilities and interests maybe it would be boring or competitive even.	

Oresztész	In my opinion this is true in a way, because the better students of that class could motivate the others to learn and in case they can “carry the team”. Mixed ability classes can get work done by letting the students (or making them) help each other. In these classes the ones who should be in the weaker class don’t feel discriminated or dumb.	
Tomi	I completely agree with mixed ability classes because the students have competition to get to the level of the better ones in the class. On the other hand the better kids have no competition. And the downside is that they will get lazy soon or later.	

Name	For	Against
K.Dani		
B. Máté		I think it’s better to separate students because students with the same abilities can fit in one class more easily because there is a thing which is good for everyone
Bálint		I think it is better to separate the students , because the students who know less may hold back the others, and the better students can not really improve in a mixed ability class.

Gyöngyi	<p>If both sides have the intention and will to make a progress and able to put effort in order to accomplish their desires, then it could be a great solution to mix student with different abilities because outstanding examples can show new ways of thinking and either can set a sample which aims to help weaker kids.</p>	
Ádám	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the stronger students can teach other students -there is no hurry on the lessons -teachers can easily focus on the weaker students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - stronger students won't get enough attention - the lessons will be much more boring and slow - teachers will might be confused because of the level differences
Andris		<p>I think that mixed ability classes are not bad but that can hold back the students that know more and they won't develop further or just slower than they could. The less knowledgeable students can't compete with the better ones and they may develop mental problems and say to them self that something like "i don't know enough to be here" and may even give up.</p>
Bene		<p>Having a class with different ability level isn't that good because they don't need to learn that material which is important to learn for them who have less knowledge.</p>

People should have kids in their early 20's

Modern technology will soon make teachers unnecessary

Children over 14 should have their own bank account

Beauty contests are harmful

Violent video games should be banned

Strict schools are better than lenient ones

Science does more harm than good

No it doesn't, everyday things like phones, computers, cars rely on technology which is based off science. They made our life so much easier to live, but it is our task to decide how we use that technology.

Girls and boys should be educated separately

Homeschool

Compulsory summer work

Generation gap is a myth

ORY: I think humans are more than able to evolve usually it is laziness which makes older people say that they can not keep up with the changes. Also they lived down a life with a set of rules and customs and they think this is the only way to live. This makes them grumpy and actually motivates us to be even better than our parents were. This makes the statement true it is just a myth we made up.

Money spent on advertisement should be spent better

It's better to be self-employed than working for a company

TV is the greatest educator

Eszti: I've never really thought about it, but all I heard about tv in my childhood is that it eats my brain. It is true that tv can affect children negatively, for example with bad language. Also children tend to copy what they see, so they can easily learn rude behaviour and jokes from silly cartoons. It can also become very addictive. On the other hand documentaries can give

you a wide range of knowledge. Even cartoons for children where they teach numbers/songs/words can really easeen parent's job. So tv can educate too, but it is by far not the best educator.

It's better to be a younger sister/brother than an elder one

ORY: As a middle child this is a very difficult question to me. As an older sibling you have responsibility and everything you do has actions, you have to be always responsible with your younger sibling, looking out for them and caring is your job and you have to make the first moves towards the kid if he or she is mad at you or did sth bad. I think that is harder than just taking it from a big sibling.

Testing on animals should be banned

Eszti: I am totally on the same page. Most people don't even recognise the cruelty in the cosmetics world. These animals are encaged for their hole life and suffer just for your skin to be slightly softer, eccetera. The people who make these cosmetics should be the ones to try them, not innocent animals. People should also be more cautious about this and pay attention to buying animal testing free cosmetics. Not only are these made of natural components which are better for your skin but they are also blood free so yey. If you buy animal tested cosmetics you contribute to the death of millions of animals, so don't.

More science lesson at school

No one should have a driving licence under 21

The internet should be censored

Máté: This is very wrong. The internet functions at it's best when the information is free-flowing. Criminals and other disruptive content should be restricted, but limiting the other users is a horrible move which would only harm the people who take advantage of the openness of the internet. (For example, in China, they can't use new and useful ideas into an exchange because the internet usage there is very censored.)

Everyone should move away from parents at the age of 18

Tourism does more harm than good

Money makes the world go round

Learning Latin is worth the effort

Blind children should be educated together with the sighted

It's easier to talk than to listen

Globalisation is a negative trend - we should fight against

Study more History than Biology

Strict versus permissive parents

Individual oral testing should be banned

Early 20's should have their own children

It's better to buy top brands

Private cars should be banned from city centers

Hypermarket versus small shops

The most important aspect of a job is the salary

Science and technology are bless for society