

The Handmaid's Tale Final DebateIntroduction

You will be conducting a debate for the final project for *The Handmaid's Tale*. I have placed you into groups of 3 and assigned you opinions.

Central Question: What happens to romantic relationships and the expectations of faithfulness that go with them in a totalitarian state?	
Topics	Group
1. By having sex with Nick, Offred cheated on Luke	Agree: Maddison, Eric, Matt A
	Disagree: John, Maddy, Aliyah
2. By engaging in private time with the commander, Offred cheated on Luke	Agree: Caytlen, Julia, Daria
	Disagree: Tamara, Dara, India
3. By engaging in private time with Offred, the Commander cheated on Serena Joy	Agree: Winter, Elizabeth, Marianne
	Disagree: Cayley, Danielle, Cynthia
4. By encouraging Offred to have sex with Nick, Serena Joy cheated on the Commander	Agree: Jedi, Jamel, Wilhelmina
	Disagree: James, Cesar, Matt V

Expectations

In order to be successful in this assignment, you will need to:

- Find 5-10 passages that support your argument
- Anticipate the arguments your opponents will make so you'll be ready to counter them
- Write out your thesis statement, opening argument, main points for your passage analyses, and concluding ideas
- Divide up who will be responsible for speaking in each part of the debate

Peer Review Guidelines

Articulation of Stance

Specific Examples and Analysis

Successful Rebuttals

Effective Use of Time

Written Outline

INCLUDE:

- Written Introduction
- Complete Thesis Statement
- Passages Found as Evidence (both for initial presentation and for rebuttals) AND relevant analysis and statement of significance
- Written Conclusion

Debate Format

Opening arguments (2 min):

[Agree, 1 min] Introduce your argument and distribute a written version of your thesis statement

[Disagree, 1 min] Ditto

Passage Debate (16 min):

[Agree, 2 minute] Present your first quote as evidence and argue for why it is important

[Disagree, 2 minute] Find a quote to rebut their argument, rebut the argument

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Closing Statements (2 min)

[Agree, 1 mins] Return to your thesis statement, discuss your proof, reflect on it's larger significance

[Disagree, 1 mins] Ditto