



DEBATING IN ENGLISH

# 英语辩论

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中国传媒大学出版社

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2004 年参加第八届“外研社杯”全国英语辩论赛获得季军  
 2005 年辩论队代表中国赴马来西亚吉隆坡参加“世界大学生辩论赛”  
 参赛辩手：02 英语播音、02 德语



2005 年参加第九届“外研社杯”全国英语辩论赛获得一等奖  
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 参赛辩手：02 英语播音





2005 年参加第九届“外研社杯”全国英语辩论赛优秀奖

2005 年参加第九届“外研社杯”全国英语辩论赛热身赛获得季军

参赛选手：03 英语播音



2007 年参加第十一届“外研社杯”全国英语辩论赛获得三等奖

参赛选手：04 英语播音

## **Debate is a powerful means of fighting**

- ◇ It leads you to fight your logic out
- ◇ It pushes you to fight with your team-mates
- ◇ It demands you to fight against yourself rather than others

## Preface

From the last few years, the terms, such as, globalization (economically and culturally), “global village”, cultural diversity, clash of civilizations (i. e. , among various values and beliefs), and so on, have penetrated in our lives. Most importantly, these terms have described many kinds of psychological effects. The effects in ordinary people’s lives are presented by various patterns of international communication. As everyone knows, any kind of communication is carried out by the usage of languages. Narrowly speaking, in the context of radio & TV, communication is carried on by the reporters. Hence, for the future radio & TV reporters, the tough challenge of grasping the basic skills for the effective communication with a global perspective is the first step to take if you have decided to become qualified professionals in the broadcasting field.

What can you do? How can you reach the certain demanded level during the short period of your study time here?

To train your mind and logical ways of thinking through debating.

There are no absolute universal concrete methods for debating in any patterns in any countries. But, there are inspiring references for you to ponder over and to open your eyes. This is a collection of the articles on debating and the essays on the deeper theoretical arguments. Obviously, as a course literature, it is attempting to provide assistance for you as the second year undergraduates in the International Communications College of

Communication University of China.

However, it does not mean that you can meet the challenges easily through the reading. Put it in the straight, you have to use your heart to comprehend the wisdom, the styles of thoughts. Especially, the collection is based on the Western writers' and thinkers' discussion, since the theories on debating are developed by the West. In addition to some skills for debating, at the same time, you can get an opportunity to taste the meaning of "the twin crises of modern Western civilization: scientism and nihilism, which are really two sides of the same coin." (Hollinger, 1985, p. x).

Therefore, what I would like to emphasize here is: Everything depends on yourself, because "the great events of the world take place in the brain."

Thanks are due to the authors of the papers and the contributors of the essays collected here, because my work on this course-literature was made possible by their contribution. Owing to the limits of time, I am responsible for the mistakes in this compilation.

Good Luck! All the participants of the course "Debating in English"!!

Coach: Hai Chun Lin

Beijing

From February 2004

to September 2007



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# 1 Background

## Definition Original background Aim of the course

The aim of debating is to learn, not to win.

Or rather learning is the only form of victory that makes sense.

——A. J. Toynbee

## 1.1 Definition

谈及辩论,就必须引用这样的解释:“Debate isn’t just an educational activity or just a competitive activity. Debate is a competitive-educational endeavour.”<sup>①</sup>因为这句话不仅是作者对辩论这一脑力与体力活动的深刻认识的结论式提炼,更是对笔者具有激励与共鸣作用的反响。仅仅就是这句话,使得笔者的思绪回到2003年的早春。在中国传媒大学的校园里那两间让很多学生一生难忘的南院第一教学楼的114和115教室里,经过仅仅两周的时间,笔者与02级英语播音与主持艺术专业的学生们的《英语辩论》教学互动,我们就开始走出课堂模拟的辩论赛台,登上了全国大学生关注的“英语辩论”的比赛擂台。也就是在中国内地规模最大、水平最高的英语辩论赛事:第八届“外研社杯”全国英语辩论赛华北预赛区。举办地点在天津外国语学院。

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① Wood, R. & Goodnight, L., *Strate Debate*. National Textbook Company. Illinois, USA. 1995, p. 4.

虽然从北京到天津所乘坐的列车只行进大约两个小时,但是,这一次出发,完全在冥冥之中影响着我们三个人所组成的、代表学校的辩论队的走向:谁也不能预测其结果,谁也不能对其形成的影响加以揣测。只是现在,因为如此系统地回顾,才愈发意识到其产生的影响已经延续了一年又一年:一批批就读“英播”的学生走进“英语辩论”的赛台,而后,带着已被拓展的思维方式和眼界,更加客观而敏锐地选择了自己的人生道路……

如今再翻开那薄薄的大赛记录册,上面清清楚楚地记录着:

华北赛区:第八届“外研社杯”全国英语辩论赛华北赛区预赛于2004年3月18至21日在天津外国语学院举行,共有14支队伍参赛。经过四天的比赛,21日下午北京外国语大学和北京广播学院代表队最终胜出。

华北赛区参赛队:

北京交通大学、北京外交学院、北京语言大学、首都师范大学、燕山大学、南开大学、天津商学院、天津理工学院、河北工业大学、中国人民大学、天津外国语学院、北京广播学院、北京外国语大学。

外研社在对第八届“外研社杯”全国英语辩论赛预赛综述中写道:

2004年3月14日至4月18日,第八届“外研社杯”全国英语辩论赛地区预赛成功举行。天津、太原、南昌、桂林、昆明、洛阳、成都等7个城市的赛场里汇集了来自全国26个省、市、自治区的99支大学代表队。经过激烈角逐,北京外国语大学、西南师范大学、大连大学、新疆大学等16支队伍脱颖而出,获得了来京参加“外研社杯”全国英语辩论赛总决赛的入场券。

第八届“外研社杯”全国英语辩论赛,北京广播学院队获胜。然而,对于担任《英语辩论》一课的主讲教师及“英语辩论队”的教练的笔者而言,“英语辩论”所引发的效应已经完全超越了课堂、大赛的范围,而真正成为生活中的一部分了。

时间随着每年的《英语辩论》课的展开、参加“外研社”举办的英语辩论赛

已经走过了四年的时间,作为代表中国传媒大学参赛的国际传播学院英语播音与主持艺术专业的参赛选手也换了一届又一届,但是,不变的是:对“英语辩论”这一概念的理解越来越深刻。

因此,笔者认为还是从“世界辩论学院”所定义的“英语辩论”开始认识这一领域最为恰当。

### 1.1.1 What Is Debate?

A debate is an organized argument. It involves an analysis of issues and ideas. The rules of the debate are the conventions that have developed to regulate the argument.

—The Debating Book, J. Hooke & J. Philips 1994.

#### Definition of Debate

The definition of a debate is essential in determining the direction that it will take. It is important for all speakers, and indeed the audience, to appreciate what a topic is about. For example, in a topic entitled ‘That the world is a better place without Ginger Spice’ it is important to define what you mean by the ‘world’, ‘Ginger spice’ and most importantly ‘a better place’. It is important to isolate the key words in a topic and define them. This provides the framework around which the debate will be set. The definition is the responsibility of the 1st speaker of each side, and MUST be stated within the first minute of that speaker’s speech. Without a definition, a side lacks focus and finds it difficult to isolate the issues in a debate.

Debate (n.) [2] Contention in argument; dispute, controversy; discussion; esp. the discussion of questions of public interest in Parliament or in any Assembly. (OED)

A debate is, basically, an argument. That is not to say that it is an undisciplined shouting match between parties that passionately believe in a particular point of view. In fact the opposite is true. Debating has strict rules of conduct and quite sophisticated arguing techniques and you will



often be in a position where you will have to argue the opposite of what you believe in.

A debate involves an affirmative and a negative side, with the 3 speakers on each side. The first affirmative speaker commences the debate, followed by the first negative speaker and so on. Each speaker has different role.

为了让大家能够较系统化地认识“英语辩论”，笔者试图较全面地落列出以上有关解释“辩论”这一概念的定义。

然而，如果大家理解了这些定义的话，就会给出很简洁、很清楚的解释：“辩论”只是经过组织的、有条理可遵循的、开发逻辑能力的智力游戏。

只是这一“游戏”是通过巧妙的语言运用能力而显得更加富有色彩和魅力。

因此，语言的驾驭能力在这里就成为最为重要的因素了。因为只有通过语言所呈现的逻辑思维状态才会把所持的观点有效地传达给听者。

## 1.2 Key Questions

在学习了解释“辩论”这一概念后，就需要对一些基本的、进行辩论的问题有所解释。这样，才能在随后展开的系统化的学习过程中，形成对理论的正确理解、对技巧的有效掌握和对过程的周密驾驭。

很多初接触“辩论”的受训者，在经历着冲击自己的惯性思维的“头脑风暴”的过程中，不由对自己的全身心投入提出了质疑：为什么要这样苦自己？和自己这样过不去有什么意义？按照这样的方式思维对我的日常生活有什么好处呢？这些质疑会引起我们的退缩和放弃心理，因为，辩论冲击我们大脑的效应的确令我们时而感到口干舌燥、时而又备觉“理屈词穷”，更会不断地发现自己“江郎才尽”时的“无地自容”和“尴尬”。可以说，这些都是令我们自认为是对“成人的自尊”的“颠覆式”的冲击。

但是，笔者会这样回答：这些心理的产生，正表明我们在“辩论”过程中重新发现自己，并在这一发现过程中成长。

因此，笔者根据“世界辩论学院”的研究成果，将以下三个问题列为三个

小节, 希望帮助大家逐级推进学习效果。

### 1.2.1 What does “debating” mean ?

Debating (vb. sb.) [b] attrib. , as in debating society, a society whose members meet for practice in debating.

Debating is an exercise in the art of persuasion and different people react quite differently in terms of what they find persuasive. Assessing a debate is therefore an inherently subjective task. However although adjudicators will be making subjective judgments as to the impact of argument, style and structure, they do so within a framework of procedural rules and guidelines which channel and limit this subjectivity.

To debate means? to develop and defend a position on a given motion. Debaters are obliged to deal with whatever motion? they are confronted with and must stake out their position within the natural scope of that motion.

因为是学习一门属于大学专业领域中的课程, 所以, 不仅要求我们学习具体的辩论技巧, 而且需要在掌握技巧之前就完成对每一个术语的正确理解。这一步的重要性可以通过以上所列出的三个简明的段落而得到验证: 亮出观点、解释观点、论述观点。

但是, “辩论” 带给我们的挑战要在这三个步骤逐渐被展开的过程中体现出来。首先, 有观点就意味着有立场, 而有立场就表明有信念, 有信念就表示有思想。这就说明了观点的持有人依照一种思维方式来观察眼前的世界, 并按照其所坚信的方法来总结, 从而形成被“亮出的观点。”

因此, “观点” 的形成和被解释, 不仅仅是简单地告知听者观点持有人个人的“想法”, 还要很具有逻辑地让听者听懂这一“观点” 之所以不是“谬论” 的缘由所在。这就要求每一位辩手通过系统化的理论学习和思维方式的训练而形成有效的“Critical Thinking。”

### 1.2.2 How does debating work? (“Parliamentary Debating” as a case)

The standard form for the resolution draws on the idiom of the House of Commons: “This House Believes that Money Is the Root of All Evil” etc.

The proposition argues in agreement with the resolution as it is phrased, and the opposition against. One speaker from the proposition is given his chance to speak, then one from the opposition, then another from the proposition, and so on until everyone has spoken.

由于在为英语播音与主持艺术专业的学生所开设的《英语辩论》课中,将系统地介绍“Value Debating”、“Parliamentary Debating”及“Cross-examination Debating”三种辩论风格,所以,笔者在此只是只列出作为个案的“Parliamentary Debating”应当遵循的步骤流程。

从这一流程中,我们可以理解:不论是哪一种辩论风格,不论其所涉及的术语、所形成的效果如何,都有一个辩手们必须遵循的流程据此展开“观点的介绍”、“观点的论证”、“观点的总结”。

所以,这一个案进一步告诉我们:看似激烈的即兴论争、你来我往的唇枪舌战,其实,完全是在训练有素的双方辩友的通力协作下完成的一个流程。

不言而喻,只要经过严格的系统化训练,你也会成为“神采飞扬”的、“振振有词”的、“思路缜密”的辩手。

### 1.2.3 How Did Debating Start?

Debates have been a feature of democracy from Athens onwards. Government and opposition parties debate policies, appeal to an undecided electorate to support them, and put their proposals to the vote. Persuasive speaking has always had a real significance in political history, as many great orators have won support for their legislation through the quality of their speeches.

The British Parliament has given birth to two forms of recreational debating in the country today. Show debating is practiced in school debating societies and university unions, where students and/or invited guest speakers put forward two sides of a controversial topic to win the votes of the audience. In competitive debating, panels of trained judges evaluate the most persuasive speakers according to set criteria.

当我们阅读了以上的段落,就会认识到:在《英语辩论》课中所设立的模拟辩论台上的辩手们的表现看似是发生在由教练编组后的、同学间“语言的交

锋”，实际上是有着至今在人们的现实生活中起着举足轻重作用的、真实的辩论背景的。教室里的“模拟化训练”只不过是把现实中的辩论流程搬到了教室里，那些通过辩论而建立新的国家政策的辩手们成了朝夕相处的同学们而已。

有了如此的认识，我们再看大家所触及到的“辩论”，就会有更贴近现实的眼界，不仅通过辩题所涉及的现实问题使我们的思维更加务实，而且使我们更清醒地意识到：通过辩论，原本模糊不清的真相逐渐浮出水面。我们的认知水平和对现实问题的解决能力也有了不同程度的提高。

可见，“辩论”带给我们的已经远远超过最初希望的语言能力的提高，而是在语言能力提高的同时，我们的眼界、思维、归纳能力、观察的敏锐度都有了相应的变化。而这一变化，日常生活中的“交流”是不能达成的。这就是源自现实的“辩论”带给我们的惊喜和收获。因此，从以下介绍的内容中，大家可以进一步认识到经过现实千锤百炼的“Parliamentary Debating”之所以在西方政体中仍起着重要的作用并影响普通百姓生活的原因所在。

### 1.3 Case: Original Background of Parliamentary Debate

Debates have been a feature of democracy from Athens onwards. Government and opposition parties debate policies, appeal to an undecided electorate to support them, and put their proposals to the vote. Persuasive speaking has therefore always had a real significance in political history, as many great orators have won support for their legislation through the success of their speeches.

“Parliamentary Debate” loosely describes the format of debate practiced in the UK, Ireland, Canada, parts of the USA, Australasia, Asia and many other countries, where debaters are judges as if they were persuading an audience of laypeople. This stands in contrast to the “policy” debating of USA and Central & Eastern Europe in particular, which relies on much greater levels of research and analysis.

“British Parliamentary” is a specific format, used in the UK and at the