



Animals should not be used for entertainment

Circuses, zoos, aquariums, dog fighting, hunting, fishing, horse racing, bullfighting... all of these practices keep animals in captivity and use them against their will for human entertainment. People take part, considering them fun, entertaining, artistic or cultural, but none justify the forcing of animals into confinement, to suffer and die, for our benefit.

In the past, in Roman circuses, elephants, humans, tigers and other animals were killed for the sake of amusing spectators. In England, bears were forced to fight dogs until one of the two died. Until very recently, in a Spanish town, goats were thrown to their deaths from the church tower during festivals. All of these forms of entertainment have finally been rejected by the majority of society, though still many more forms of abuse are yet to be questioned and eliminated.

Points For	Points Against
Circuses are fun. The animals can do tricks. Children get the opportunity to see elephants and tigers and many other animals they would never get to see in their regular life. It is an opportunity for education and to teach the importance of environmental protection.	Circuses attract the public, especially children, for being colourful, fun and original. The reality is a sad one for animals incarcerated in them. Because circuses often travel many miles between different sites, animals invariably suffer. The temporary accommodation for animals, confined quarters, as well as abusive training practices inflicting pain and stress means a life of misery for lions, tigers, elephants and domestic animals in circuses. Natural behaviours are thwarted and animals have to endure performances several times a day.
Aquariums are fantastic. We all get an opportunity to see sea life in its natural environment.	Aquariums' are aquatic prisons in which thousands of marine animals, such as tropical, fresh and saltwater fishes and cetaceans are confined. Many of these

	<p>individuals would otherwise swim thousands of kilometres a day and possess senses which guide them through their aquatic habitat, but are frustrated in tanks where they are condemned to spend their entire lives. Through the glass of the aquarium we do not see the full picture. We do not see the boredom, the monotony or the suffering endured by the animals behind the screens.</p>
<p>Greyhounds, horses and bulls enjoy the activities they are engaged in because it is what they are born to do. They are taken care of by their owners and the sport is regulated by the government. The sport generates money for the economy.</p>	<p>Rodeos, horse and greyhound racing are just some other ways that animals are used to serve a human purpose. Horses sometimes break their legs during a race. Greyhound racing also includes the use of bunnies, which are traumatized, injured and sometimes killed. Bulls in rodeos have barbed wire wrapped around their testicles and smaller cows are scared and often injured. In all of these the same wrong is repeated: Animals are created, raised, bought, sold and used for human entertainment to their detriment. Unnecessary pain and suffering is involved.</p>



Useful language to use in formal debates

In general, you would need to come up with 4-5 main arguments to support your team's debating position. It's also important to remember to also anticipate the opposition's arguments to help you defend your team's point of view.

Building your Argument

Introducing your point: To begin with... First of all...

Connecting your points: Also... Furthermore... What's more...

Showing importance: More importantly... What's worse... Above all else...

Giving examples: For instance... For example...

Opinions, Preferences:

In my opinion..., The way I see it..., As far as I'm concerned..., If it were up to me..., I suppose..., I suspect that..., I'm pretty sure that..., I honestly feel that, Without a doubt...,

Disagreeing:

Don't you think it would be better..., Shouldn't we consider..., But what about..., I'm afraid I don't agree..., Frankly, I doubt if..., The truth of the matter is..., The problem with your point of view is that..., It's a fact that..., According to ..., The reality of the situation is..., The numbers show that..., The fact is this:...,

Partially agreeing:

I agree with you to a point however..., I see where you are coming from but..., I see what you are saying but ...,

Delaying Strategies

I can't answer that directly..., I'll need time to think about that..., That's a very interesting question, because..., That's a difficult question to answer,

Asking someone to repeat

Pardon me? Pardon? Excuse me? Sorry? I'm sorry? I beg your pardon?

Holding the floor

Hold on..., Hold on a second..., Yes, I was about to mention that..., Well, I was about to come to that..., Sorry, I haven't finished yet ., I haven't made my point yet ...

Expressing solutions and alternatives

The solution is to..., Then you will..., The best way to ... is ...,
To ..., you really have to ..., There are many choices....,

Supplementary materials



If needed, each member can be given a card indicating their position in the debate.

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