

University education should be free



Many countries provide free education to children under 16, which is generally accepted. When it comes to university education there is a great variation as some countries like the UAE and Germany offers this for free and very cheaply, respectively. Others however, like the US and Hong Kong, the cost is soaring and can cost up to \$50,000 per year. Does everyone have a right to higher education?

Points For	Points Against
University is not just about a degree and skills. There are other opportunities to develop like personal, intellectual, spiritual, and professional skills, much of which is not taught directly at school.	Many attendees of university drink too much alcohol while their education takes a back seat. University is reserved for the truly academic and gifted who are a real asset to a nation.
University provides great economic benefits, since an educated workforce is a prosperous one. It can also form the basis of a culture called “smart economy” which leads to better innovation and cultural awareness.	We need to be more selective. The say that an entire country of people must have degrees means that we cannot find those who are the most talented. We can provide scholarships for those who are driven and determined.
Having a degree opens new opportunities to work and career advancement.	There is no proof that having a degree makes you more employable. Since 2008 many graduates have not been able to find work in their chosen field of study
Fees are quite high and many do not have the funds to pay for their courses, as such students take out very large loans and go into unnecessary debt. The fact that they are going into debt has a negative effect on the economy as they have less money to spend on goods and services.	Every action has a cost. If people are not going to think about the consequences of having such a large loan then it must be their own responsibility. For example, in Ireland where higher education is free graduates often take a year or two to travel and “find themselves” while giving little or nothing back to the state that has financed their degrees.



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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YOU DISAGREE

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