

Canada and The Great War - Controversial Issues

Many issues surfaced during The Great War between 1914 and 1918. Politicians, soldiers, families and your average Canadian faced racism, discrimination, and conscription.

Review the topics below. A group of ten will debate one of the topics. Five will stand on the pro side of the debate and five will stand on the con side. Your group of five will work hard and prepare to beat the opposing side with your wit and intelligence.

Topic #1 - Enemy Aliens/Racism (Pages 18 - 20, 31 and hand out)

Statement - Be it Resolved that Racism and Discrimination was justified during the Great War.

- Consider what the War Measures Act Was
- Consider why we did not let some people fight during this time in our history
- Consider who should have been allowed to fight

Topic #2 - Conscription (Pages 31 - 33)

Statement - Be it Resolved that Conscription shattered Canadian unity during the First World War.

- Consider who was for and against conscription
- Consider when and why it was enforced
- Consider positives and negatives

Topic #3- Women's Franchise and Right to Participate in Politics (Page 23, 65 - 66)

Statement - Be it Resolved (in the Year 1916) that all Women Should Have the Right to Vote and Participate in the Government of our Nation.

- Consider when women got the right to vote and why
- Consider why women should not be given the right to vote
- Consider their rights during this time period

Format of Debate

Team of 5 (Pro)

Member #1 (Introduction and history related to your side)

Member #2 (Point #1)

Member # 3 (Proof for Point #1)

Member #4 (Point #2)

Member # 5 (Proof for Point #2)

Open Rebuttal

Team of 5 (Con)

Member #1 (Intro and history related to your side)

Member #2 (Point #1)

Member #3 (Proof for Point #1)

Member #4 (Point #2)

Member #5 (Proof for Point #2)

Evaluation for Debate

Your Name (Marked By..) _____

Group Names - _____

Topic - _____

Pro or Con

Criteria	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1	Overall /4
Organization - Main arguments and responses are outlined in a clear and orderly way.	Completely clear and orderly presentation	Mostly clear and orderly in all parts	Clear in some parts but not overall	Unclear and disorganized throughout	
Use of Argument - Reasons are given to support the resolution	Very strong and persuasive arguments given throughout	Many good arguments given, with only minor problems	Some decent arguments, but some significant problems	Few or no real arguments given, or all arguments given had significant problems	
Presentation Style - Use of voice, clarity of expression, persuasive technique	All style features were used convincingly	Most style features were used convincingly	Some style features were used convincingly	Few style features were used convincingly	
Rebuttal	Excellent examination of arguments	Good examination of arguments	Decent examination of argument	Poor examination of argument	

Overall, what mark would you give this team out of 10?

/10

Please state three reasons why you gave the group this mark.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____