

ESU TEACHING RESOURCE



I COULDN'T DISAGREE MORE

OVERVIEW

This quick game introduces students to Response. Students should become used to ways to politely disagree with others, and not see disagreement as something that is always hostile.

This game is also good preparation for debates - students will become used to the idea of coming up with ideas in support of a position that they may not personally hold.



OBJECTIVES

- To encourage students to see disagreement as “part of the game” rather than evidence of personal animosity
- To encourage students to think quickly, even when responding to something they personally agree with.



RESOURCES

Some topics, e.g.
We should never hurt animals
Fruit is always healthy
Lying is always wrong
War is never justified
We should always obey the law

TASK

Give participants a statement and ask them to give reasons why they disagree with you. Make the statements absolute, but difficult to disagree with (e.g. ‘I believe that we should never hurt animals’; or ‘I believe that lying is always wrong’; for older students, ‘I believe that war is never justified’).

Tip: Alternatively, go round in a circle with each participant saying why they disagree with the statement given by the previous participant, and then giving a new statement of their own (e.g. “I couldn’t disagree more because fruits can have too much sugar, but I do think that the sky is always blue”, followed by “I couldn’t disagree more because the sky is normally grey, but I do think holidays are fun”).

