

Zombie Apocalypse

Skills focus: Reasoning | Persuasion | Creativity | Public Speaking
Useful for: ESU Schools' Mace | Public Speaking Competition

 Purpose and Impact	 Resources
Objectives: - To develop persuasive reasoning using everyday objects. - To build confidence speaking in a low-pressure environment. - To encourage creative thinking and justification. Impact: Develops reasoning, creativity and persuasive speaking. Students learn that strong arguments can be made about almost any topic by focusing on purpose and evidence.	Resources Needed - Household object prompt cards (optional) - Timer

TASK

Setup

- Divide students into groups of 4-6.
- Ask each student to choose or receive a household object
- Explain the scenario: a zombie apocalypse has begun, and you must persuade the group that their object is the most valuable for survival.

Activity

- Students prepare a 30-60 second argument.
- Each student presents why their object should be kept.
- Group members ask one follow-up question.
- The group votes for the most convincing object.

Evaluate

-  Which arguments were the most persuasive?
-  Which examples of evidence were most effective?
-  Did anyone change your mind?

Object list ideas

KS3

- Torch
- Backpack
- Blanket
- Water bottle
- First aid kit
- Scissors

- Compass
- Portable radio
- Cooking stove

KS4

- Solar charger
- Duct tape
- Sleeping bag

- KS5 / Sixth Form
- Laptop
- Gardening tools
- Sewing kit
- Medical textbook
- Generator
- Fuel can



Differentiation and Progression

KS3 Use familiar household objects and encourage one clear reason supported by an example.	KS4 Challenge students to consider multiple uses for their object and respond to audience questions.	KS5/Sixth form Require students to compare their object with others, anticipate counterarguments and justify why it is the strongest choice.
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