

Technology Debates

You and a partner will research a major engineering disaster. You will present arguments that support and oppose ethical decisions by the engineers. During the debate you will pick a side randomly and try to win your debate on the disaster. You must debate your side of the issue for at least one minute.

Rubric:

Literacy in Speaking:

- to make an oral presentation to one's class
- to communicate in a manner that allows one to be both heard and understood
- to convey one's thinking in complete sentences

Criteria	All elements present	Most elements present	Some elements present	No elements present
Delivery <i>(Presenter does not rush, shows enthusiasm, avoids likes, ums, kind ofs, you knows, etc. Uses complete sentences.)</i>	4	3	2	1
Eye Contact <i>(Presenter keeps head up, does not read, and speaks to whole audience.)</i>	4	3	2	1
Posture <i>(Presenter stands up straight, faces audience, and does not fidget.)</i>	4	3	2	1
Volume <i>(All can easily hear Presenter. No gum, etc)</i>	4	3	2	1
Information <i>(Presenter gives accurate information that displays a great depth of knowledge with more than 4 critical facts)</i>	4	3	2	1
Time <i>(Presenter gives debate in 1-minute time limit. One point is deducted for every 10 seconds over or under)</i>	4	3	2	1

Engineering Disasters

- The Tacoma Narrows Bridge
- The Titanic
- Apollo 13
- Deepwater Horizon
- Fukushima Reactor Meltdown
- Hurricane Katrina & the levies