



WATER DEBATE



Standards:

SS7G6 The student will discuss environmental issues across Southwest Asia (Middle East).

a. Explain how water pollution and the unequal distribution of water impacts irrigation and drinking water.

SS7G7 The student will explain the impact of location, climate, physical characteristics, Distribution of natural resources and population distribution on Southwest Asia (Middle East).

a. Explain how the distribution of oil has affected the development of Southwest Asia (Middle East).

b. Describe how the deserts and rivers of Southwest Asia (Middle East) have affected the population in terms of where people live, the type of work they do, and how they travel.

- You will be assigned ONE topic to debate and will judge the other teams.
- You must prepare both sides of your argument.
- You will judge the other groups
- Please read the rubric carefully to ensure you get all the points possible!

Goals and Prompts

1st Group:

Rights:

Who has the rights to the water? Anyone, no one, upstream, downstream, equal rights? Why do some countries like or dislike the idea of dams?

Discuss unequal distribution and the potential political unrest it can cause, especially in relation to fresh water in the Middle East.

2nd

Technology:

Should we build a desalinization plant? Which countries are most likely to be able to afford a desalinization plant? Pros and cons. Which type of irrigation system should we use? Why?

Conceptualize the problems with unequal distribution of resources (water and wealth) and how they affect where people live in the Middle East and what they do.

3rd

Irrigation and Pollution:

Is irrigation good or bad? Is there an alternative? What are the effects downstream in terms of water quality? Why is water pollution an issue?

Analyze why people in the Middle East live where they live and how they use irrigation in the climate they inhabit.

Avoid using *I think* or *I feel*. Write and debate like a historian or analyst. You have a reason you feel the way you do based on facts. Say, "In the Middle East countries with oil are normally richer than countries that do not have oil." That's a fact!

Name:

Debate Date: September 12th

Period:

Due the Day of the Test

Rubric:

Preparation	Points	Your Points
Prepared <i>both</i> sides of the argument at home	5	
Spoke <i>at least 4 times</i> during the debate. Twice on each side	20	
Wrote a defensive concluding thesis for <i>both sides</i> of the argument	10	
Cited <i>at least 2 sources</i> -PowerPoint, handouts, study island, textbook, or other sources.	5	
Debate		
Used <i>good listening skills</i> when other groups were speaking and debating	10	
<i>Took notes</i> on the other teams debates	10	
Appropriately <i>decided winning teams</i> (not based on friendship, but facts)	5	
Post Debate		
Wrote a defensive conclusion for all <i>three topics</i> arguing the side you thought was the best and why.	30	
Turned <i>all required information with rubric</i> and name stapled and placed in class box.	5	
Total:	100	

