



PHILOSOPHY OF DEBATE & PUBLIC SPEAKING COACHING

J O S E P H T A H I N D U K A

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Philosophy is the study of fundamental questions about existence, knowledge, values, reason, mind, and language.

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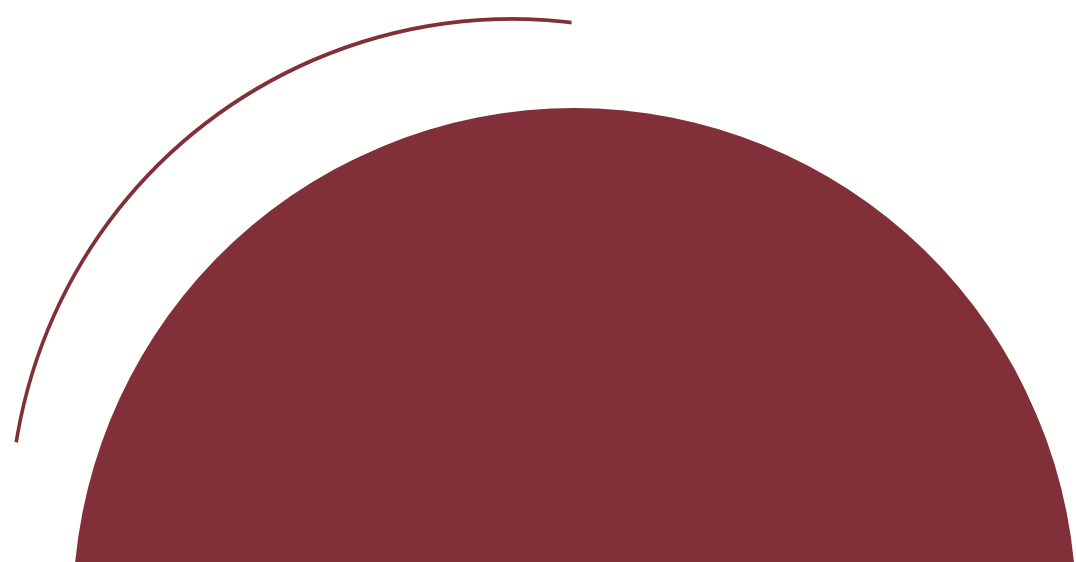
**What would the world loose if debate and oracy
education didnt exist?**

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Introduction to Debate Education



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- **By definition:** Debate and public speaking coaching is the structured teaching of argumentation, critical thinking, and public speaking.

Key questions: What role does debate play in developing an informed and engaged society?

Historical Roots of Debate and Rhetoric



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- Brief overview of ancient philosophers like Aristotle, Socrates, and Cicero.
- Aristotle's Rhetoric: the three persuasive appeals (ethos, pathos, logos).
- The role of debate in ancient Greece as foundational to democratic society.
- Philosophy and debate as tools for understanding truth, ethics, and justice.

The Philosophical Goals of Debate and Oracy Education



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- Explain the purpose of debate: developing reasoning skills, ethical understanding, and the pursuit of truth.
- Key objectives: intellectual humility, open-mindedness, respect for differing views.
- Explore how debate helps cultivate virtues that are essential to democratic citizenship and personal growth.

Epistemology and Debate: Building Knowledge ●●●

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- Discuss epistemology (the study of knowledge) and how debate helps students differentiate between opinions and justified beliefs.
- Emphasis on evidence-based argumentation and reasoning.
- How debate encourages continuous questioning and skepticism as pathways to deeper understanding.

Ethics in Oracy & Debate: Respect, Integrity, and Fairness



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- The importance of ethical guidelines in debate (honesty, avoiding manipulation).
- Explore ethical challenges: fallacies, ad hominem attacks, and misrepresentation.
- Why debate fosters empathy and respect by encouraging participants to understand multiple perspectives.



The Role of Debate and Oracy in Civic Education and Democracy

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- How debate prepares students for democratic engagement by teaching deliberation, compromise, and constructive disagreement.
- The role of debate in resisting authoritarianism and promoting a culture of dialogue.
- Real-world applications: how debate can influence societal change and encourage responsible citizenship.

Skills Developed Through Debate and Oracy Education ●●●

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- Overview of critical skills: critical thinking, communication, research, and analysis.
- How these skills empower individuals to make informed decisions and contribute meaningfully to society.
- Address how debate also builds confidence and resilience in personal and professional contexts.

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Challenges in Debate and Oracy Education



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- Potential issues in debate education, such as bias, echo chambers, and overemphasis on winning.
- Address the need for balance between competition and the philosophical goals of truth-seeking.
- Strategies to mitigate these challenges and create a constructive debate environment.

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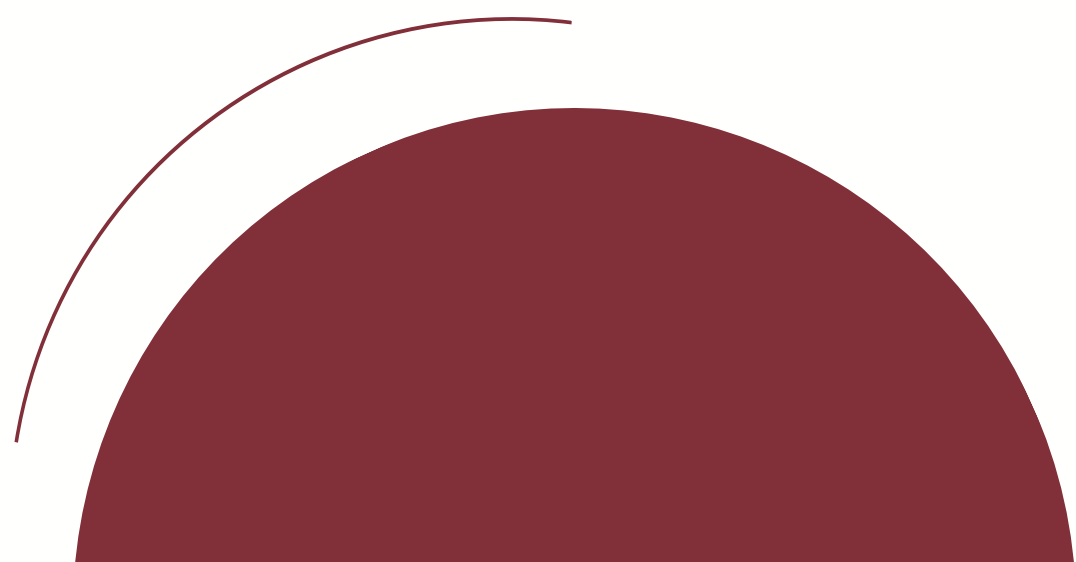
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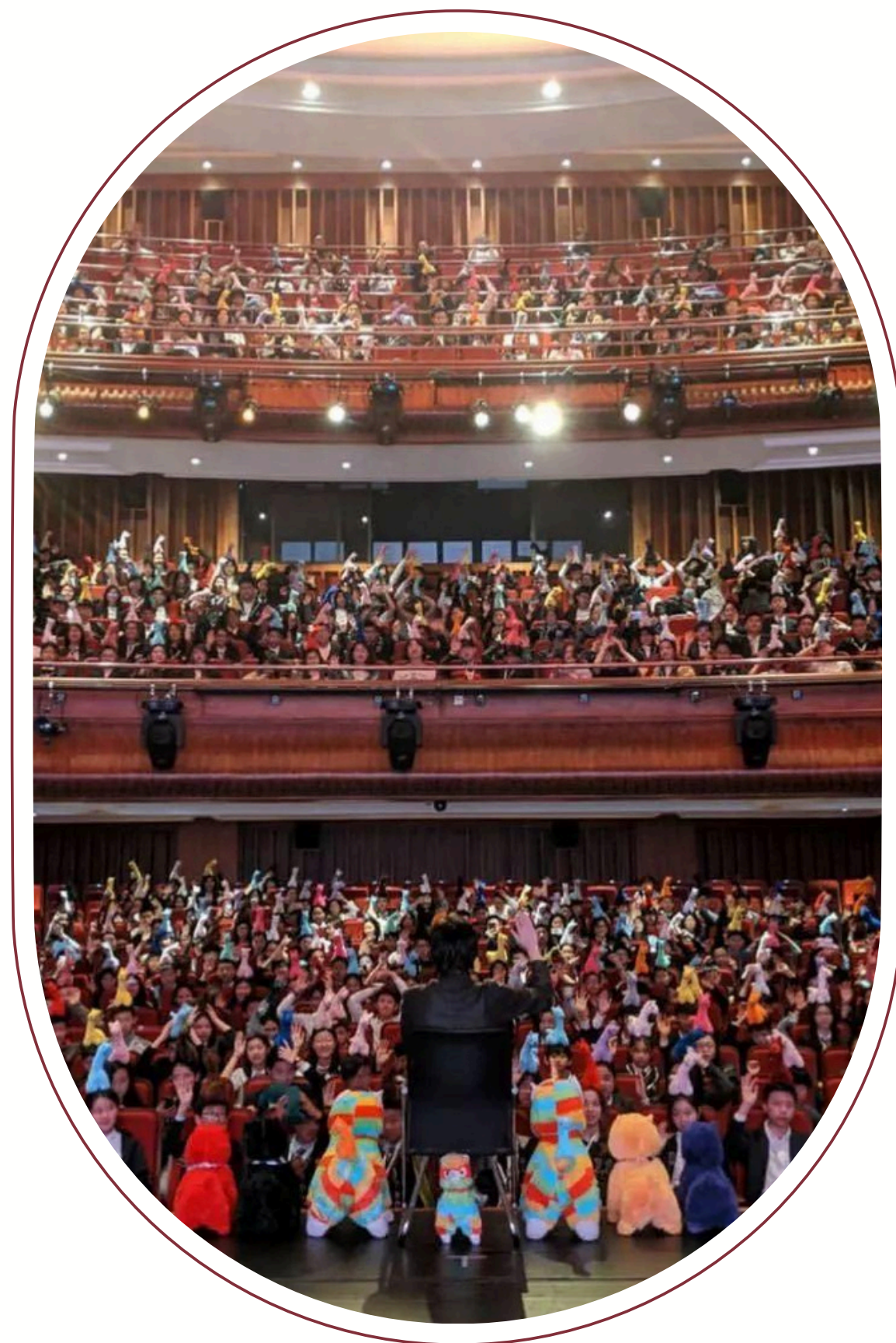
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Thank you

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