

Gr. 7-8 Science

LET'S TALK ABOUT CLIMATE

Gr. 7 Debate Topics

How to Avoid Miscommunication

- <https://youtu.be/gCfzeONu3Mo?si=PYbuuKQYcD141vhe>
- Éviter les erreurs de communication
- <https://youtu.be/wpEa489xr08?si=ZTWMO73WqYVcFQ0R>

Gr. 7 Debate Topics

- Windmills vs Solar Panels
- Green Roofs vs White Roofs
- Horizontal vs Vertical Axis Wind Turbines
- Grid-Tie vs Off-Grid Solar Power
- Hydropower vs Ocean Energy
- Fiberglass vs Cellulose Insulation

Gr. 8 Debate Topics

- Hydropower vs Ocean Energy
- Sea Walls vs Breakwaters
- Reverse Osmosis vs UV Sterilization for Water Treatment
- Water Desalinization vs Water Reclamation vs Water Catchment
- Absorbents vs Burning for Oil Spills

Essential Messages

- Who is your audience?
 - What do they know? What do they want to know?
 - What concerns do they have?
 - How does this impact them?
- What barriers, controversies, or misinformation is out there about your topic that you need to consider?
- What is the message you are trying to get across, and why should the audience care OR what should the audience do?

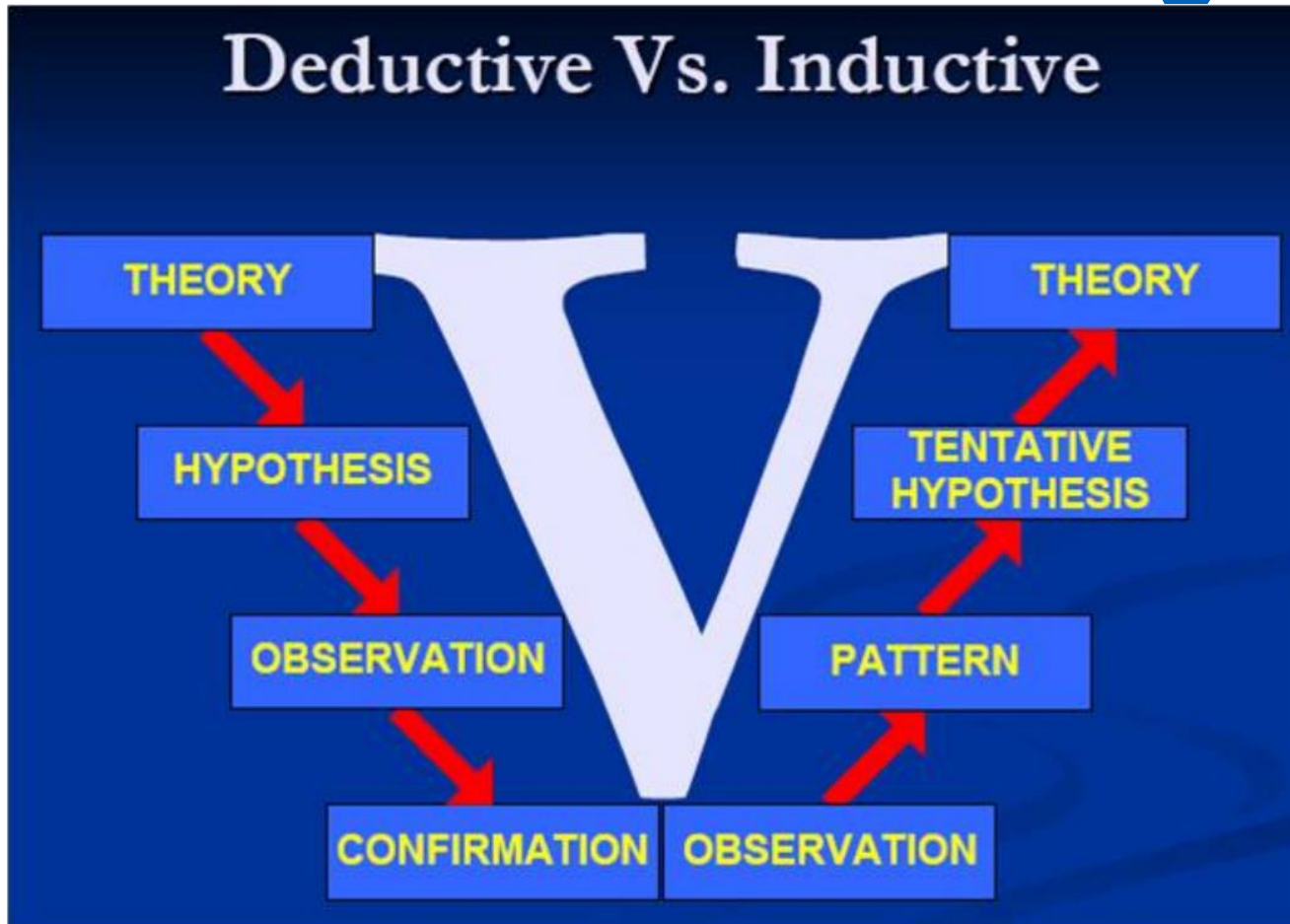
Speaking Clearly

- Speak with confidence
- Define all jargon and acronyms that you use
- Explain ideas and concepts as simply as possible
- Know the topic and your position on it well in advance of any conversation

Constructing an Argument

- Use a combination of logic, emotion, and authority
- Extrinsic vs Intrinsic Proof
 - Extrinsic: evidence that exists outside of the speech, ex data, testimony
 - Intrinsic: the things you argue through logic and reasoning

Constructing an Argument: Methods of Reasoning



Fallacies

- When you make an argument with logic, avoid fallacies.

These are some examples:

- **Red Herring:** Introducing an unrelated argument as opposition that you can more easily refute
- **Strawman:** Arguing based on distortion, exaggeration, or misunderstanding of the other person's arguments
- **False Dilemma:** Presenting two arguments as the only two options when there may be others, or as mutually exclusive when they may not be
- **Hasty Generalization:** Drawing a conclusion based on a small or biased sample