150 Persuasive Speech Topics

Grouped by audience and subject, each with the angle to argue. Time any speech free at script-timer.com.

Easy persuasive speech topics

1. Schools should start after 9 a.m.

Argue from sleep research and attendance data.

2. Homework should be limited to one hour a night.

Argue from family time, rest, and how much practice actually sticks.

3. Every student should learn to cook before graduating.

Argue from health, money saved, and independence after high school.

4. Pets make people happier and healthier.

Argue from daily routine, companionship, and reasons to get outside.

5. Recess should be part of every school day through eighth grade.

Argue from focus, movement, and social skills built through play.

6. Libraries matter more now than ever.

Argue from free access to books, internet, quiet space, and community programs.

7. Everyone should learn to swim as a child.

Argue from safety, confidence, and a form of exercise that lasts a lifetime.

8. Breakfast is worth making time for.

Argue from energy, focus in morning classes, and better food choices later in the day.

9. Kids should earn an allowance by doing chores.

Argue from responsibility, money skills, and learning that work earns rewards.

10. Reading for fun beats watching TV.

Argue from imagination, vocabulary, and attention span.

11. Students should be allowed to listen to music while studying.

Argue from mood, motivation, and blocking out noise, with sensible limits.

12. Every town needs more public parks.

Argue from exercise, community events, and cleaner air.

13. Volunteering should be part of growing up.

Argue from empathy, real-world skills, and connecting with neighbors.

14. Learning a second language should start in elementary school.

Argue from how young kids pick up sounds and the career doors it opens.

15. Board games are better family time than screens.

Argue from conversation, taking turns, and learning to lose gracefully.

Persuasive speech topics for high school

1. High schools should require a personal finance class.

Argue from budgeting, credit, and taxes that every adult faces.

2. Students should be able to rate their teachers anonymously.

Argue from honest feedback, better teaching, and giving students a voice.

3. Cell phones should be locked away during class.

Argue from attention, learning time, and less social pressure during the school day.

4. Part-time jobs teach more than extra homework does.

Argue from time management, responsibility, and real-world communication.

5. Driver’s education should be free at every public high school.

Argue from road safety, fairness for low-income families, and independence.

6. School dress codes should be enforced the same way for everyone.

Argue from fairness, clear rules, and fewer distractions from uneven enforcement.

7. High schools should offer more trade and technical classes.

Argue from good-paying careers, hands-on learners, and local job needs.

8. Student athletes should keep a minimum grade average to play.

Argue from academics first and habits that carry past sports.

9. Senior year should include a required internship.

Argue from career exploration, references, and a reason to stay engaged.

10. School lunches should be free for every student.

Argue from hunger and focus, removing stigma, and simpler paperwork.

11. Students should help write their school's rules.

Argue from buy-in, fairness, and learning how democracy works up close.

12. Class rank should be replaced with simple honors levels.

Argue from collaboration and less stress over tiny differences in grades.

13. Every student should take a public speaking class.

Argue from interviews, presentations, and confidence in every career.

14. Group project grades should include peer ratings of each teammate.

Argue from fairness, accountability, and stopping one person from doing all the work.

15. Students should be allowed to retake any test once.

Argue from mastery, second chances, and learning from mistakes.

Persuasive speech topics for college

1. College textbooks should be free digital editions.

Argue from cost to students, access on day one, and fairness in grades.

2. Attendance shouldn't count toward college grades.

Argue from adult responsibility, mastery over seat time, and students who work jobs.

3. A gap year before college helps most students.

Argue from maturity, clearer goals, and real-world experience.

4. Colleges should drop legacy admissions.

Argue from fairness, merit, and opening doors to first-generation students.

5. Unpaid internships should be replaced with paid ones.

Argue from fairness to students who can't afford to work for free.

6. Every college major should require a writing course.

Argue from how nearly every career depends on clear writing.

7. Community college is the smartest start for many students.

Argue from cost, smaller classes, and transfer pathways.

8. Campuses should stay open to students during breaks.

Argue from housing security, international students, and students without family support.

9. Pass/fail grading should be an option for electives.

Argue from exploration, taking risks, and learning outside your comfort zone.

10. Colleges should show the real cost after aid upfront.

Argue from informed decisions, comparison shopping, and avoiding surprise debt.

11. College athletes should be able to earn money from their names.

Argue from fairness, the value athletes create, and rights other students already have.

12. Mental health days should count as excused absences.

Argue from burnout, honesty, and students taking care of themselves before they fall behind.

13. Every lecture should be recorded and posted for students.

Argue from review, accessibility, and students who miss class for work or illness.

14. Campus jobs should pay at least a local living wage.

Argue from cost of living, student focus, and fewer hours needed off campus.

15. Cumulative projects should replace final exams.

Argue from deeper learning, real-world skills, and less cramming.

Funny persuasive speech topics

1. Pineapple belongs on pizza.

Argue from sweet and salty balance, bravery, and the joy of annoying purists.

2. Cats are secretly running the household.

Argue from who gets fed first, who sits where, and who answers to whom.

3. Naps should be mandatory for adults.

Argue from crankiness, productivity, and how toddlers clearly have it figured out.

4. Breakfast foods taste better at dinner.

Argue from pancakes, zero rules, and the thrill of quiet rebellion.

5. Socks with sandals are a fashion statement.

Argue from comfort, practicality, and confidence as the real style.

6. The snooze button should be banned.

Argue from groggy mornings, false hope, and the betrayal of nine extra minutes.

7. Every office needs a nap room.

Argue from afternoon slumps, happier coworkers, and fewer meetings people sleep through.

8. Cereal is a soup.

Argue from definitions, bowls, spoons, and liquid poured over solid food.

9. Dogs deserve a seat at the dinner table.

Argue from loyalty, better manners than some relatives, and puppy eyes.

10. Leftover pizza tastes better cold.

Argue from flavor that settles overnight, convenience, and no microwave line.

11. Group chats should have a mandatory quiet hour.

Argue from late-night memes, notification overload, and everyone’s peace of mind.

12. Elevators should play better music.

Argue from awkward silence, mood, and the untapped concert venue.

13. The week should start on Tuesday.

Argue from weekend recovery, gentler alarms, and nobody liking Mondays anyway.

14. Hot dogs are sandwiches.

Argue from bread, filling, and the stubborn logic of definitions.

15. Video game skills belong on a resume.

Argue from teamwork, quick decisions, and leading a team at midnight.

Controversial persuasive speech topics

1. The voting age should be lowered to 16.

Argue from civic habits, taxes working teens already pay, and laws that affect them.

2. Zoos do more harm than good.

Argue from animal welfare and space, or flip it to conservation and breeding programs.

3. Public universities should be tuition-free.

Argue from access and opportunity, or from the cost to taxpayers.

4. Standardized tests should be dropped from college admissions.

Argue from fairness and test prep costs, or from the value of a common yardstick.

5. Social media companies should verify users' ages.

Argue from protecting kids, or from privacy and open access.

6. Daylight saving time should be abolished.

Argue from sleep, health, and the hassle of changing clocks twice a year.

7. Animal testing for cosmetics should be banned everywhere.

Argue from animal welfare and available alternatives, or from safety standards.

8. Professional athletes are paid too much.

Argue from fairness to teachers and nurses, or from market value and short careers.

9. Homeschooled students should take the same tests as public school students.

Argue from accountability, or from family choice and flexibility.

10. School uniforms should be required.

Argue from equality and focus, or from self-expression.

11. Nuclear power is the best path to clean energy.

Argue from reliable low-carbon power, or from waste storage and cost.

12. Participation trophies do more harm than good.

Argue from earned achievement, or from encouragement for young kids.

13. Celebrities have a duty to be role models.

Argue from influence on young fans, or from their right to a private life.

14. Fast food restaurants should post health warnings.

Argue from informed choices, or from personal responsibility.

15. Remote work is better than working in an office.

Argue from flexibility and no commute, or from collaboration and mentorship.

Persuasive speech topics about technology

1. AI tools should be allowed in school with clear rules.

Argue from real-world skills, honest use, and teaching students to check AI's work.

2. Kids under 13 shouldn't have smartphones.

Argue from attention, sleep, and online safety.

3. Everyone should learn basic coding.

Argue from problem solving, job options, and understanding the tools we use daily.

4. Self-driving cars should be allowed on public roads.

Argue from distracted human drivers and the testing needed to earn public trust.

5. Video games can be good for your brain.

Argue from problem solving, coordination, and teamwork in multiplayer games.

6. Tech companies should let users download all their data.

Argue from ownership, transparency, and the freedom to switch services.

7. Right to repair should cover every electronic device.

Argue from cost, less electronic waste, and owning what you buy.

8. Everyone should use a password manager.

Argue from reused passwords, data breaches, and simple daily security.

9. Social media feeds should be chronological by default.

Argue from user control, less manipulation, and actually seeing friends' posts.

10. Online privacy should be taught like driver's ed.

Argue from digital footprints, scams, and choices that follow you for years.

11. Facial recognition in public spaces needs strict limits.

Argue from privacy, errors, and consent.

12. Streaming services should pay artists more per play.

Argue from fair pay, the work behind a song, and keeping new artists in music.

13. Every school should have one device-free day a week.

Argue from attention, face-to-face connection, and a reset from screens.

14. Smart home devices aren't worth the privacy trade-off.

Argue from always-on microphones, data sharing, and what you actually gain.

15. Electric scooters belong in bike lanes, not on sidewalks.

Argue from pedestrian safety, speed, and clear shared rules.

Persuasive speech topics about health

1. Sugary drinks should carry warning labels.

Argue from informed choices and how much sugar a single bottle can hold.

2. Every student should learn CPR before graduating.

Argue from emergencies at home and bystanders who can step in.

3. Eight hours of sleep should be a priority, not a luxury.

Argue from memory, mood, and how sleep affects school and sports.

4. Gym class should be required every year of high school.

Argue from lifelong fitness habits, stress relief, and daily movement.

5. Energy drinks shouldn't be sold to minors.

Argue from caffeine, sleep, and heart health in growing bodies.

6. Walking 30 minutes a day is the simplest health habit.

Argue from heart health, mood, and no equipment needed.

7. School vending machines should sell only healthy snacks.

Argue from habits, energy, and what students actually reach for between classes.

8. Restaurants should list calories on every menu.

Argue from informed choices and seeing the trade-offs at a glance.

9. Mental health check-ins should be as routine as physicals.

Argue from early support, less stigma, and treating the whole person.

10. Drinking water should be free at every public event.

Argue from heat safety, cost, and less plastic waste.

11. Cooking at home is healthier than eating out.

Argue from control over ingredients, portions, and money saved.

12. Every employee should get paid sick days.

Argue from stopping the spread of illness and faster recovery.

13. Hand washing lessons belong in every grade.

Argue from cold and flu season and simple habits that protect others.

14. Teens should keep headphone volume low to protect their hearing.

Argue from permanent hearing damage and easy volume settings.

15. Sunscreen should be a daily habit, not just a beach habit.

Argue from everyday sun exposure, skin damage, and simple prevention.

Persuasive speech topics about education

1. Year-round school would help students learn more.

Argue from summer learning loss and shorter, more frequent breaks.

2. Schools should teach students how to study.

Argue from note taking, memory techniques, and habits that last past school.

3. Media literacy should be taught in every grade.

Argue from spotting misinformation, judging sources, and thinking before sharing.

4. Cursive handwriting should still be taught.

Argue from reading historical documents, fine motor skills, and personal signatures.

5. Teachers should be paid like other professionals with similar training.

Argue from recruiting, keeping good teachers, and the value of great teaching.

6. Class sizes should be capped at 20 students.

Argue from individual attention, participation, and classroom management.

7. Field trips are worth the cost.

Argue from hands-on learning, memorable lessons, and seeing ideas in the real world.

8. Grades should measure mastery, not homework completion.

Argue from what grades should mean and fairness to students who learn differently.

9. Every school should have a full-time librarian.

Argue from research skills, reading habits, and help finding trustworthy sources.

10. Music and art deserve the same funding as core subjects.

Argue from creativity, engagement, and skills that support other subjects.

11. Every student should pass a civics course before graduating.

Argue from voting, jury duty, and understanding how local government works.

12. Teachers should help choose their own curriculum.

Argue from expertise, flexibility, and lessons that fit the class in front of them.

13. Open-book tests teach more than memorization.

Argue from understanding over recall and how work happens in real jobs.

14. Typing should be taught in elementary school.

Argue from daily computer use and time saved on every future assignment.

15. Every school should have an outdoor classroom.

Argue from fresh air, focus, and hands-on science lessons.

Persuasive speech topics about the environment

1. Single-use plastic bags should be banned.

Argue from litter, ocean waste, and how easily reusable bags replace them.

2. Cities should plant trees on every street.

Argue from shade, cooler summers, and cleaner air.

3. Schools should compost cafeteria food waste.

Argue from less landfill waste, hands-on science, and soil for school gardens.

4. Fast fashion is bad for the planet.

Argue from textile waste, water use, and clothes that don’t last.

5. Public transit should be free in big cities.

Argue from less traffic, cleaner air, and access to jobs.

6. Every home should have recycling pickup.

Argue from convenience, participation, and keeping recyclables out of landfills.

7. Lawns should be replaced with native plants.

Argue from water savings, pollinators, and less mowing.

8. Bottled water should be phased out where tap water is safe.

Argue from plastic waste, cost, and trust in public water.

9. Companies should pay for the packaging waste they create.

Argue from responsibility, less packaging, and lower cleanup costs for cities.

10. School cafeterias should offer a meatless day each week.

Argue from environmental impact, healthy variety, and trying new foods.

11. Cities should protect dark skies from light pollution.

Argue from wildlife, wasted energy, and seeing the stars.

12. New buildings should be required to include solar panels.

Argue from clean energy, lower bills over time, and unused roof space.

13. Gas-powered leaf blowers should be phased out.

Argue from noise, air pollution, and quieter electric options.

14. Fixing things is better than replacing them.

Argue from waste, money saved, and skills worth keeping.

15. National parks should limit daily visitors.

Argue from protecting trails and wildlife, or from public access to public land.

Persuasive speech topics about sports

1. Esports should count as a varsity sport.

Argue from teamwork, strategy, practice hours, and scholarships.

2. Youth tackle football should wait until high school.

Argue from developing brains and flag football as a safer start.

3. Instant replay should be used in every pro sport.

Argue from fair calls, or from game flow and the human element.

4. Every kid should play at least one team sport.

Argue from teamwork, discipline, and handling wins and losses.

5. Girls' and boys' teams should get equal funding.

Argue from fairness, opportunity, and what equal support makes possible.

6. Kids should try many sports before specializing in one.

Argue from overuse injuries, burnout, and building all-around skills.

7. Cheerleading is a sport.

Argue from athleticism, competition, and injury risk.

8. Chess should be recognized as a sport.

Argue from training, competition, and mental endurance.

9. Pro games should start earlier on school nights.

Argue from young fans, sleep, and growing the next generation of viewers.

10. Pickleball deserves a spot in every school gym.

Argue from easy rules, low cost, and players of every age.

11. Sports betting ads shouldn't air during games.

Argue from young viewers and keeping the focus on the game.

12. Youth coaches should be certified before working with kids.

Argue from safety, positive coaching, and knowing basic first aid.

13. Stadiums built with public money should share profits with the city.

Argue from taxpayer investment and who benefits from the team's success.

14. Running is the best sport for beginners.

Argue from low cost, flexible schedules, and progress you can measure.

15. High school sports should have a no-cut policy for freshmen.

Argue from inclusion, late bloomers, and keeping kids active.