

## THE BENEFITS OF DEBATE FOR ENGLISH STUDENTS IN SPEAKING SKILLS AT UKI TORAJA

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### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to find out about the benefits of debate on English students in speaking skills at UKI Toraja. Researcher use qualitative methods in research. This data was taken from 10 (ten) English students who were collected using a purposive sampling technique. To obtain data, researchers used interviews and analyzed using Sugiyono's theory. The results of the research show that there are several benefits of debate for English students in speaking skills, being involved in debate activities will be very beneficial for students, including how to convey arguments well, increasing students' self-confidence, improving logical and analytical thinking skills, can help students to improve new knowledge and also improve the ability to organize in a structured manner. Based on the results of the research above, the researcher concluded that students received several benefits from debate after participating in debate activities at UKI Toraja.

**Keywords:** Benefits, participating, debate, Speaking ability

### INTRODUCTION

Debates were structured conversations between two or more parties in which different viewpoints were communicated. The primary purpose of a debate was to debate opposing arguments and opinions in an organized manner, in the hope of helping the audience or parties not involved in the debate to understand the arguments presented by each side. According to Theory of Democratic Discourse Habermas (2023), Team debates allow various points of view to be expressed in democratic discourse. Different parties' arguments need to be heard and responded to using this principle.

According to Saptoyo (2022), debate is structured for each side to present their arguments, respond to questions or arguments from the other side, and conclude. Debates often had specific rules and structures, including moderators or judges to ensure the debate was fair. From the above words in the debate method, we could open up new spaces for the development of ideas, discussions, and this would lead to something that was very important when applying this method, namely the style of critical thinking that made debaters see more than a few aspects and solutions in each case and problem that needed to be dissected. The debate was an extremely important part of lectures because it gave students the opportunity to speak publicly regularly. This helped them overcome nervousness and improved

speaking skills, which were useful in class presentations, discussions, and communication in everyday life debates could also improve Opinion Skills Students could learn to construct strong arguments and think of reasons to support their views. Debating strengthened students' ability to analyze and deploy information, identify weaknesses in adversaries' arguments, and develop debating skills that could be used in academic and professional settings. According to Frans H. Van Eemeren (2017) An understanding of argument theory is the ability to form and present strong arguments based on formal logic, argument theory, and rhetoric. On the other hand Dainton (2022), suggest that in debates, communication theories such as speaking communication models and persuasion theories can help participants understand how their messages are received and conveyed. Audiences can be persuaded more effectively this way.

The debate process played an important role in developing skills, because debate helped students develop effective speaking skills. In addition to learning to speak, they also developed effective skills for writing, reasoning, and persuasion, as well as being able to better understand themselves in front of others. In addition, they grew in their ability to respond with clarity, logic, and persuasiveness, as well as becoming more trusting of themselves on the field. They had to understand their opponents' arguments and respond to them effectively, improving their listening skills. And also debate involved collecting and analyzing evidence to support arguments. It was important for employees to possess the necessary capabilities, such as the ability to collect and organize summaries of information and submit data in a meaningful way.

Through the entire debate process from this background, UKI Toraja students, those who were often actively involved during debate competitions, not only learned to present their arguments, but students who were actively involved during the activity became more confident in conveying their arguments to their opponents, a common phenomenon. they experienced when taking part in the debate, the debate felt like they lacked self-confidence. when speaking, they deviated from the discussion that had been determined and there were also responses that were not relevant according to their respective positions. Therefore, it was important to conduct research on the Benefits of Debate for English Students in Speaking Skills at UKI Toraja as material for evaluating the debate team at UKI Toraja. By knowing the benefits of debate, students could invite their friends to be actively involved in debate activities.

## METHODS

This research utilized interviews as a primary method to gather insights from students who actively participated in debates at UKI Toraja. The aim of these interviews was to uncover the benefits that students derived from their engagement in debate activities, as well as to explore any challenges they faced during their participation. According to Sugiyono (2010), interviews are an effective tool for collecting qualitative data, offering a deeper understanding of respondents' experiences and perspectives. The researcher prepared a structured set of interview questions designed to guide the conversation while allowing for flexibility to explore emerging themes. The questions focused on various aspects of the debate

experience, including skills development, confidence building, and the impact on academic performance. The interview participants were selected based on their active involvement in debate activities within the university. This purposive sampling approach ensured that the respondents possessed relevant experiences that could provide valuable insights into the research objectives. Interviews were conducted in a comfortable setting to encourage open dialogue. The researcher used a smartphone recorder to document the conversations, ensuring that all responses were captured accurately for later analysis. The recorded interviews were then transcribed to facilitate a detailed examination of the participants' feedback. Following the transcription, thematic analysis was employed to identify common patterns and themes from the participants' responses. This analysis helped to highlight both the benefits of participating in debates and any issues that needed addressing, providing a comprehensive understanding of the students' experiences. By employing these methods, this research aims to shed light on the benefits and challenges associated with debate participation among students at UKI Toraja, ultimately contributing to the enhancement of extra-curricular programs within the academic framework.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The purpose of this research was to find out what the benefits of debate were for English students in speaking skills at UKI Toraja. In this section, the author presented the data found along with explanations in qualitative research. The author presented a description of the findings as a result of the analysis process collected through interviews with English debate students at UKI Toraja. The findings presented were based on the initial research question, namely: What were the benefits of debate on English students in their speaking skills at UKI Toraja. This data was collected from English students at FKIP UKI Toraja who were still active and who were UKI Toraja alumni. There were 10 students who were interviewed and several students had taken part in the KDMI UKI Toraja Debate, and there were also those who represented UKI Toraja in the 2022 IAIN Palopo competition debate. They consisted of 4 men and 6 women. The interviews were conducted online via voice notes from WhatsApp in North Toraja, from Friday 26 to 29 January 2024. The results of the interview regarding the benefits of debate for English students at UKI Toraja showed that debate was very beneficial for English students. There were several benefits of debate for students in speaking skills which were described as follows:

### Extract 1: Presenting Arguments

One part of speaking skills is conveying ideas to improve argumentation skills when presenting arguments in debates. When researchers interviewed students via voice notes in North Toraja, researchers found several ways to improve speaking skills when participating in debate activities.

**I1.2** : How can debate improve your speaking skills?

**S1.2** : "...We are required to be able to convey our arguments correctly and standardly, accompanied by existing facts [...*kita diharuskan untuk bisa menyampaikan argumentasi kita dengan benar dan baku disertai dengan fakta yang ada*]

[Interviewed on January 27<sup>th</sup>,2024]

This is supported by the statement:

**S4.2** : "...Enabling me to convey arguments clearly and convincingly and strengthen my speaking skills in a structured manner. [...*memampukan saya dalam menyampaikan argumen dengan jelas dan meyakinkan dan memperkuat kemampuan berbicara saya secara eee terstruktur*]

[Interviewed on January 28<sup>th</sup>,2024]

This is supported by the statement:

**S9.2** : "...First is mental training because in debate we need to prepare well mentally to speak in front of our opponents and the second is preparation of arguments, the arguments we convey in debates must be weighty, logical and can be accepted by everyone..." [...*Pertama melatih mental karena dalam debat kita perlu mempersiapkan mental yang baik untuk berbicara didepan lawan kita dan yang kedua yaitu persiapan argumen, argumen yang kita sampaikan dalam debat harus berbobot, logis dan dapat diterima oleh semua orang...*]

[Interviewed on January 30<sup>th</sup>,2024]

Based on the results of interviews with students above, the way to improve students' speaking skills towards opposing debate teams is to prepare logical arguments before presenting arguments to opponents and to be able to compose good sentences as precisely and as briefly as possible and also to train a good mentality for speaking in front of opponents so that they can convey arguments correctly and standardly accompanied by existing facts. S1, S4 and S9 state that speaking ability can improve automatically if students are accustomed to being trained to stand in public so that this can make it easier to improve their speaking ability so that what they want to convey His arguments can be conveyed well because his mentality and self-confidence have been trained.

## **Extract 2: Confidence**

Self-confidence is confidence in one's own abilities and judgment in facing the opponent's debating team so that the debater can dare to express his opinion. The personality aspect in the form of confidence in one's own abilities is one part of self-confidence, self-ability is very necessary in debate activities so that the debate can run smoothly so that the debater can also convey his arguments well so that they can be conveyed to the audience. When researchers interviewed students via voice notes in North Toraja, researchers found the benefits of debate in increasing self-confidence when participating in debate activities.

**I3.3** : What are the benefits of debating in increasing your self-confidence?

**S3.3** : "...When I debate I am a different person, I am very confident and my self-confidence is based on thoughts and things, ha what I will convey includes the arguments that I will convey. [...*pada saat saya berdebat saya adalah orang yang berbeda saya sangat percaya diri dan kepercayaan diri saya*]

*di dasarkan pada pemikiran dan hal-ha yang akan saya sampaikan termasuk argumentasi yang akan saya sampaikan]*

[Interviewed on January 27<sup>th</sup>,2024]

This is supported by the statement:

**S5.3** : "...My self-confidence increases greatly. Previously, I was very insecure..." [*kepercayaan diri saya itu sangat meningkat sebelumnya saya sangat tidak percaya diri...*]

[Interviewed on January 29<sup>th</sup>,2024]

This is supported by the statement:

**S7.3**: "...First is that it helps my public speaking because with debate I can give myself confidence to speak in public and the second is the breadth of giving opinions..." [*Pertama membantu public speaking saya karena dengan debat saya dapat memberikan kepercayaan diri saya untuk berbicara didepan umum dan yang kedua ialah keluasan memberikan pendapat...*]

[Interviewed on January 29<sup>th</sup>,2024]

Based on the interviews with students above, the benefits of debate for English students have a big influence in increasing students' self-confidence in debating. When someone is used to standing in public, it will make it easier for them to convey their opinions so that from this students can be helped to improve their public speaking so that Students can convey arguments in a directed manner. S3, S5 and S7 stated that debates can provide opportunities for students to increase their confidence in expressing opinions so that their public speaking can give them full confidence in participating in debates, participating in debates also provides a good mentality, broad insight and can help students to make decisions.

### **Extract 3: Logical And Analytical Thinking**

When participating in debate activities, logical thinking in debate can help students fight against their opponents' arguments. Students must be able to think logically to increase their chances of winning for their team. Logical and analytical thinking plays a very important role in responding to arguments or conveying opinions to debating opponents, so students must be able to analyze every word or sentence conveyed by the opposing team, in this case it will make it easier for students to refute opponents by conveying existing facts. When researchers interviewed students via voice notes in North Toraja, researchers found the benefits of debate in improving logical and analytical thinking when taking part in debate activities.

**I3.9** :How can debate train you to think logically and analytically?

**S3.9** : "...So basically debates are based on logical thinking which can be understood by all participants and the audience present..." [*Jadi pada dasarnya debat memang di dasarkan pada pemikiran yang logis yang dapat dipahami seluruh peserta dan audience yang hadir...*]

[Interviewed on January 27<sup>th</sup>,2024]

This is supported by the statement:

**S5.9** : "...Debates train me to think logically and analytically. By participating in debates, I feel I have to be able to speak quickly and analyze various possibilities that can become strong arguments in defending our position in a debate..."[...*Debat itu melatih saya berfikir logis dan analitis dengan mengikuti debat saya merasa harus bisa berbicara secara cepat dan menganalisis berbagai kemungkinan yang bisa menjadi argumentasi yang kuat dalam mempertahankan posisi kita dalam sebuah debat...*]

[Interviewed on January 29<sup>th</sup>,2024]

This is supported by the statement:

**S10.10** : "...Debate will make us formulate arguments that are strong and in accordance with logical analysis because when we debate and debate just like that without providing relevant evidence that can be trusted so that when we can defend our argument because of the facts..."[...*Debat akan membuat kita merumuskan argumen yang kuat dan sesuai dengan analisis yang logis karena ketika kita berdebat dan berdebat begitu saja tanpa memberikan bukti yang relevan yang bisa dipercaya sehingga ketika kita bisa mempertahankan argumen kita karena adanya fakta...*]

[Interviewed on January 29<sup>th</sup>,2024]

Based on the results of interviews with students above, in debates, logical and analytical thinking is very influential in conveying arguments, where in debates we don't just convey arguments like that, but we must be able to see whether our arguments are in accordance with the facts or not, so that in this case students are helped. to find relevant evidence that can be trusted and students are required to create new and strong ideas in a limited time in order to be able to defend their arguments.

#### Extract 4: Adding New Insights

Participating in debate activities with broad knowledge is an absolute requirement to become a superior debater. In today's digital era, information is very easy to obtain in order to discover new things in debate competitions, which really helps students to add new insights to them so that when conveying arguments to the other person, this can make it easier for them to defend their arguments because of the many sources of information they know. When researchers interviewed students via voice notes in North Toraja, researchers found the benefits of debate to gain new insights when participating in debate activities.

**I6.3** : What are the benefits of debating in increasing your self-confidence?

**S2.4** : "...Debater tries to be able to show the best opinion that comes from his theory and the debaters can also listen to the arguments and information presented by their opponents so that they can increase their knowledge to argue when there is another debate activity.[...*Pendebat itu berusaha untuk bisa menunjukkan pendapat yang terbaik yang berasal dari teorinya dan juga pendebat itu bisa mendengarkan argumen-argumen*]

*serta informasi-informasi yang disampaikan oleh lawannya sehingga itu bisa menambah pengetahuan untuk berpendapat ketika ada kegiatan debat selanjutnya. ]*

[Interviewed on January 27<sup>th</sup>,2024]

This is supported by the statement:

**S7.3:** [... With debate I can give myself confidence to speak in public and the second is the breadth of giving opinions. With this debate I am satisfied in giving my opinion on an issue and the third is getting a lot of new knowledge because through debate I know a lot something I never thought about before. [... Dengan debat saya dapat memberikan kepercayaan diri saya untuk berbicara didepan umum dan yang kedua ialah keluasan memberikan pendapat dengan debat ini saya puas dalam memberikan pendapat saya mengenai suatu masalah dan yang ketiga ialah mendapat banyak pengetahuan baru karena melalui debat mengetahui banyak hal yang yang tidak pernah saya pikirkan sebelumnya.]

[Interviewed on January 29<sup>th</sup>,2024]

This is supported by the statement:

**S6.3:** [...Gives us confidence to speak in public then the ability to respond or think quickly then also gives us new understanding or knowledge. [...Memberikan kepercayaan diri dalam diri kita untuk berbicara di depan umum kemudian kemampuan untuk memberikan respon atau berfikir yang cepat kemudian memberikan juga kepada kita pemahaman atau pengetahuan baru.]

[Interviewed on January 29<sup>th</sup>,2024]

This is supported by the statement:

**S9.5 :** "...Organize my thoughts and convey arguments more clearly by training our mentality because when we are calm to convey an argument we can convey it well and also prepare a good argument.[...untuk mengorganisir pikiran dan penyampaian argumen yang lebih jelas dengan cara melatih mental kita karena ketika kita tenang untuk menyampaikan argumen kita dapat menyampaikannya dengan baik dan juga mempersiapkan argumen yang baik.]

[Interviewed on January 30<sup>th</sup>,2024]

Based on the results of the interviews with students above, the benefits of debate have a big influence in conveying clearer arguments by mentally training them so that in conveying arguments well it also adds new insights because of the many sources of knowledge in the current era, this will make it easier for students to provide responses to opposing teams debate. Increasing insight can improve students' argumentation skills so that conveying arguments is not rushed because of the many known sources of information.

## **Extract 5: Organizing Arguments In A Structured Manner**

Debate activities are not only carried out to hone quick thinking skills, but debates also help students organize arguments and convey them in a structured manner. When researchers interviewed students via voice notes in North Toraja, researchers found the benefits of debate to organize arguments in a directed manner when participating in debate activities.

**I1.5** :How can debate help you organize your thoughts and convey them clearly?

**S1.5**: "...Defend our opinions from attacks by opponents of the debate, therefore we must be able to organize our arguments well." [...*mempertahankan pendapat kita dari serangan lawan debat maka dari itu kita harus bisa mengorganisir argumen kita dengan baik.*]

[Interviewed on January 27<sup>th</sup>,2024]

This is supported by the statement:

**S4.5**: "...We must be able to identify the main points to be conveyed and arrange them sequentially to build a consistent and strong argument.[...*Kita harus mampu mengidentifikasi poin-poin utama yang ingin disampaikan dan menyusunnya secara berurutan untuk membangun argumen yang konsisten dan kuat.*]

[Interviewed on January 28<sup>th</sup>,2024]

This is supported by the statement:

**S9.5** : [...By training our mentality because when we are calm to convey an argument we can convey it well and also prepare a good argument. [...*Dengan cara melatih mental kita karena ketika kita tenang untuk menyampaikan argumen kita dapat menyampaikannya dengan baik dan juga mempersiapkan argumen yang baik.*]

[Interviewed on January 29<sup>th</sup>,2024]

This is supported by the statement:

**S10.5** : "...Basically, when the topic has been determined, the questions will be structured. In debates we must be able to provide arguments concisely and we provide examples and also arguments that are in accordance with the facts.[...*Pada dasarnya bahwa debat itu ketika sudah ditentukan topiknya maka pertanyaan akan terstruktur,dalam debat kita harus bisa memberikan argumen secara ringkas dan kita memberikan contoh dan juga argumen yang sesuai dengan fakta.*]

[Interviewed on January 29<sup>th</sup>,2024]

Based on the results of interviews with students above, the benefits of debate in organizing arguments in a structured manner can make it easier for students to convey arguments. Students must provide arguments clearly. Students are required to be able to identify the main points they want to convey and arrange them sequentially to build consistent and strong arguments so that in giving opinions, students will find it easier to convey their arguments in a structured or directed manner so that what is conveyed can truly be understood by the audience.

In this section the researcher wants to discuss the analysis of the data that has been found related to the problem formulation. The purpose of this discussion is to connect the results of data analysis and research objectives which aim to determine the benefits of debate on English students in speaking skills at UKI Toraja. The first, the discussion focuses on how to improve speaking skills. The results of the interview show that debates help them to improve their speaking skills because when participating in a debate, speaking is a way to convey an idea, so when participating in a debate, you inevitably have to be ready to convey an argument for what is being discussed. Speaking ability has a big influence in conveying students' arguments because it helps them organize and convey arguments that have been prepared before the debate begins. Based on the similarity of findings in previous research, according to Anthony Sebastian (2021), is claimed to improve speaking skills by using active debate methods. In active debate, students are invited to argue between two or more parties, either individually or in groups, in discussing and deciding problems and differences. On the other hand, the statement supported by Vygotsky(2022), states that "Through debate, students can develop high-level thinking skills and communicate effectively by presenting arguments, defending views, and responding to opponents' arguments.

From the results of the discussion above, it can be said that debate can help students to improve their speaking skills. Previous research shows that improving speaking skills can be done with active debate methods to develop the ability to argue in public. The second, the discussion focuses on the benefits of debate in increasing self-confidence. The interview results show that debate plays a very important role for students. In debating, every student must be able to convince himself to dare to appear because self-ability is one part of self-confidence. Self-confidence is very necessary in debating activities so that the debate can run smoothly so that the debater can also convey his arguments well so that they can be conveyed to the audience. From the similarity of findings in previous research according to Nurfaizah2 & Nasaruddin (2022), it is claimed that increasing self-confidence is obtained from life experience. Self-confidence is an aspect of personality in the form of belief in one's own abilities so that they are not influenced by other people and can act according to their wishes, are optimistic, tolerant and responsible, adding that self-confidence is related to the ability to do something good. On the other hand, the statement supported by Maria Lopez (2015) states that participation in debates has a significant positive impact on participants' level of self-confidence. Through practicing public speaking, facing challenges, and defending arguments, debate participants learn to feel more confident in delivering their views in various contexts.

From the results of the discussion above, it can be said that debate is very beneficial for students, including increasing their self-confidence. Through debate, students can train to appear in public with confidence so that they can convey their arguments correctly. Previous research shows that the personality aspect is self-confidence so that it is not influenced by other people and can act according to one's wishes. The third, discussions focused on debate help develop argumentation skills. The interview results show that debate helps students develop their argumentation skills. In debating, students must be able to argue when taking part in debate

activities. Developing argumentation skills is of course related to how we convey arguments logically appropriately and correctly so that what they discuss in the debate can be conveyed to the audience in a targeted manner. Based on the similarity of findings in previous research, according to Ali Nurdin (2022), argumentation skills are important to train in the learning process so that students have logical reasoning, clear views, and rational explanations of the things being debated. On the other hand, the statement supported by Ridwan Abdullah (2022), states that argumentation is a form of rhetoric that seeks to influence the attitudes and opinions of other people, so that they are believed and ultimately act in accordance with what the writer or speaker wants.

From the results of the discussion above, it can be said that debate can help students develop their argumentation skills, argumentation skills are related to how they convey arguments logically, accurately and correctly. Previous research shows that argumentation skills are important to train so that students have logical reasoning and rational explanations. The Fourth, the discussion focuses on how debate helps students organize their thoughts and convey them clearly. The interview results show that debate really helps students in organizing their thoughts and conveying them clearly. In debating, the ability to organize thoughts and convey them must be mastered by students before starting the debate. They create an important framework or summary of thinking to create arguments and ideas accompanied by clear evidence so that the argument they want to convey can be conveyed to the audience. Based on the similarities of previous research, according to Pasla (2023), organizing thoughts and conveying includes the ability to communicate clearly, precisely and convincingly. This includes choosing the right words, appropriate emphasis, and controlling intonation and volume in order to attract attention and influence the thoughts and emotions of the audience. On the other hand, the statement supported by Dale Carnegie (2023), states that organizing thoughts and conveying them is the idea of debating with other people can help someone sharpen their thinking skills and convey arguments more effectively.

From the results of the discussion above, it can be said that debate can help students organize their thoughts and convey them clearly. Students' ability to organize their thoughts and convey them can start by making an important framework or summary accompanied by strong evidence. Previous research shows that organizing thoughts and delivery includes the ability to communicate clearly, precisely, and convincingly to judges and audiences. The fifth, the discussion focuses on how debate helps students apply the debate process in everyday life. The results of the interview show that debating is not only applied in the world of learning but can also be applied in everyday life. In debating, students apply how to understand and listen to ongoing conversations and use appropriate language and how to become students who can listen so that whatever is said by other people they can understand. From the similarities to previous research according to Robert Trapp & John Stewart (1976), it is claimed that debate skills can be applied in the context of dialogue and deliberation to solve complex problems in people's lives. They highlight that well-structured debate can facilitate the exchange of ideas, broaden understanding, and promote cooperation between individuals who hold different views. On the other hand, the statement supported by Diana Carlin (2021),

states that debate training not only improves speaking and argumentation skills, but also improves critical thinking skills, problem solving, as well as empathy and respect for other people's views.

From the results of the discussion above, it can be said that debate helps students apply the debate process in everyday life, debate can be applied in everyday life, including how to understand and listen and how to use good and correct language with other people. Previous research shows that debate can be applied in the context of dialogue and deliberation to solve complex problems in society. The sixth, the discussion focuses on how debate helps students overcome their fear of public speaking. The results of the interview show that in debating students must be able to fight their own fears and before taking part in a debate students always regularly practice speaking in front of a mirror and some practice with their classmates so that when the debate starts students are really ready to appear and convey their arguments well. In participating in debate activities, students are greatly helped by this activity because when they take part in debates they always prepare everything that will be conveyed, including preparing the arguments that will be presented and preparing them mentally to appear in public. From the similarities to previous research, according to claimed that participation in debates can help students improve their public speaking skills and reduce their level of fear of speaking in front of crowds. This research shows that through debate, students can gain self-confidence, better communication skills, and the ability to think critically and persuasively.

From the results of the discussion above, it can be said that debate really helps students overcome their fear of speaking in public. Before debating, they take the time to practice speaking in front of a mirror and to their classmates and also prepare everything needed for a debate, including a summary of the important points. Previous research shows that debate helps students reduce their fear of speaking in front of crowds. The seventh, the discussion focuses on how debate helps students improve their listening skills. The results of the interview show that in debating students must be able to listen and understand and pay attention to every argument presented by their debating opponents so that they can refute the opposing team's arguments. When participating in debates, students are greatly helped by their listening skills because when they are really active in paying attention and noting down every important point that the opposing team conveys, this will also make it easier for them to provide rebuttals to their opponents. From the similarities to previous research according to it is claimed that this research shows that debate can be an effective tool for improving students' listening skills because it requires the ability to understand the opponent's arguments and respond to them appropriately. Thus, through debate, students can develop better listening skills, which is an important skill in various aspects of life, including in academic, professional, and social environments.

From the results of the discussion above, it can be said that debate helps students to improve their listening skills, students must be able to listen and understand and pay attention to every argument presented in order to refute the opponent's argument. Previous research shows that debate can be an effective tool for improving listening skills because it requires understanding the opponent's

arguments. The eighth, the discussion focuses on how debate can train students to think logically and analytically. The interview results show that in debating students must be able to train themselves in logical and analytical thinking. In debating, students are required to be able to force their logic to think about what they will say after the opposing team's argument is finished. They are required to think logically and quickly because in debating students must prepare arguments accompanied by strong and relevant evidence in order to be more convincing to the audience. From the similarities to previous research, according to claimed to explore the relationship between debate and students' critical thinking abilities. He found that through participation in debate, students significantly improved their abilities in logical, analytical, and critical thinking. Debaters must be able to construct cohesive arguments and deeply understand their opponents' positions, which requires strong analytical thinking skills. This research shows that debate not only provides a platform for students to practice speaking and listening, but also trains them in thinking critically and analytically. This is because debate encourages students to construct well-structured arguments, consider evidence and logic, and formulate appropriate responses to opponents' arguments.

From the results of the discussion above, it can be said that debate is very helpful in training students to think logically and analytically. In debating, students must force logic to think quickly and be able to convey their arguments logically. The research results show that students must be able to compose well-structured arguments.

The ninth, the speaker focuses on how debate can help students formulate strong arguments. The interview results show that in debating students must be able to formulate strong arguments. In debating, it is very helpful to create a strong argument so that when presenting the argument students can provide evidence that can convince the audience and jury. From the similarities to previous research, according to it is claimed that debate is not only about speaking, but also about the process of formulating strong and convincing arguments. Through debate, students are encouraged to think critically, conduct research, and consider various points of view before constructing their arguments. This helps them to become more skilled at understanding the complexity of issues and formulating convincing and supportive arguments.

From the results of the discussion above, it can be said that debates really help students in formulating strong arguments, in debates students are really helped in creating strong arguments so that when presenting arguments students can provide evidence that can convince the audience and jury. The research results show that the process of formulating strong and convincing arguments is through debate so that students can be invited to prepare everything before the debate begins.

The finally, the discussion focuses on how debate can help students understand different points of view. The interview results show that in debating students must be able to see and understand different points of view. In debating, as they know, in debating there are two teams, namely pros and cons, in this position, each of them conveys their argument according to their position, so students must be able to see how they convey their argument, whether it is simply conveyed without being accompanied by relevant evidence or not. they present their

arguments according to their position and whether they are accompanied by relevant evidence. Based on the similarities to previous research according to Pamela (2012), it is claimed that debate can be an effective tool for promoting tolerance, empathy and understanding of different points of view. By interacting with arguments from multiple viewpoints, debate participants can develop the ability to view issues from different perspectives, which in turn can increase their understanding of the complexity of controversial issues.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the benefits of debate that English students get from participating in debates at UKI Toraja, they are as follows; Debate is very useful for English students, including improving speaking skills in conveying arguments. Students can improve speaking skills by conveying an idea related to the topic of discussion so that the way of arguing in a debate can make it easier for them to listen and understand so they can convey their arguments clearly and structured. so that it can convince the audience and also the jury of what is being conveyed. Debate also really helps students in increasing their self-confidence, helps them organize their thoughts and convey them clearly, helps them improve critical thinking skills, helps them how to argue well, use polite language, be a good listener, be able to control emotional intelligence and be able to helps students think logically and analytically and they can gain new knowledge through this debate activity.

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Teaching English as a Foreign Language Journal

ISSN 2461-0240 (Print), 2828-9544 (Online)

Volume 13 Number 1 April 2025

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