

Moot Point

Word of the month

a cura di Sarah Gudgeon

Dicembre 2020

1. Tick five important things that people often have discussions about.

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------|
| 1. politics | 4. work |
| 2. money | 5. hamburgers |
| 3. education | 6. equal opportunities |

2. Tick the 5 platforms we can use to discuss important things

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| a. online forums | d. social media websites |
| b. class debates | e. conferences |
| c. essays | f. train platform |

The subject that causes the discussion, regardless of the platform used to discuss it, is called a moot point.

3. Complete the sentence.

The origins of COVID-19 and how it spread is a _____ among scientists.

4. Choose a moot point from the list below:

1. The COVID-19 vaccine.
2. Distance learning during the pandemic.
3. No sports clubs for people in the red zone.

5. Organise a class debate to discuss the issue. Half the class should discuss the advantages of points 1,2 or 3. The other half of the class should discuss the disadvantages. Appoint a chairperson to moderate the discussion.

Use these phrases to help you:

We think...is a good thing because...
...is a good idea because...

We think...is a bad thing because...
...is a bad idea because...

Teacher's Notes

1. Tick 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6
2. Tick a, b, c, d & e.
3. The origins of COVID-19 and how it spread is a moot point among scientists.
4. Elicit the pros and cons for each moot point with the class to help them get some ideas.
5. Let the students vote for a chairperson and then simply go round the class letting the students know if they are an A or a B:
A's will put forward the advantages and B's the disadvantages.

Extension activity:

Ask students to write up the advantages and disadvantages of the 3 moot points for homework.

You could direct the students to the UN sustainable development **goals website** to give them some ideas.