

Createdebate

www.createdebate.com

Organize online debates

what is it?

Pick a question and choose two sides. In a discussion forum-like system, participants debate the pros and cons of the question, vote each others' comments up and down, and cast votes for the side that they think makes the most sense.

Visual and easy-to-use, this website makes debating controversial subjects easy to start and simple to manage.

educational use?

While plenty of online discussion forum tools work well for stimulating conversation, createdebate.com's streamlined system helps visually demonstrate how sides present their cases, keeps track of how the conversation is going and makes it easy to find out what a group of people think.

In the paid version, instructors can also add grades to participation and manage classroom-focused conversations.

pros & cons?

The free version provides both public and private options. Private options require that students create accounts and the instructor manually adds students to the debate. Public debates are open to anyone on the site to view and participate.

While the paid version does not integrate with course management systems, it does provide additional tools useful for managing class-level debates.

what's it cost?

The basic service is free. A \$99 a year account allows an instructor to manage up to a 250 students in a debate community.

alternatives?

Any online discussion forum can be set up to facilitate debates.

resources?

<http://www.createdebate.com/tour>