Debate 2: Resolution and Format

Resolution

In spite of certain inevitable and unavoidable abuses, the growth of global trade from 1700 to 1870 resulted in substantially improved material conditions, or the promise of future material improvement, for many throughout the world.

Format

Round 1

- Pro side presents its argument (5-7 minutes)
- Con side presents its argument (5-7 minutes)

5-minute break to prepare questions

Round 2

• Questions from debaters and audience (15-20 minutes) 5-minute break to prepare closing statements

Round 3

- Closing statements by con and pro sides, in that order (3 minutes each)
- Vote by instructors to determine winner

In preparation for the debate, each student should read the .pdf files and study the four images on the PowerPoint file for this debate. The .pdf files contain excerpts from texts by Voltaire, Adam Smith, Olaudah Equiano, King George III of Britain, and the Qianlong Emperor. Please come to class with a typed page of arguments, half for the pro side, and half for the con side. Your arguments should rely primarily on the texts and images listed above that we have provided for the debate.

Bring an extra copy to hand in to the instructors. At the start of class, we will randomly divide you into two teams. Each team will have ten minutes to prepare arguments, and to decide which team member will prepare opening and closing arguments. Everyone will participate equally in the q&a segment.

Each student will be graded individually on the quality of their written preparation and their in-class debate performance.

MIT OpenCourseWare http://ocw.mit.edu

21H.009 The World: 1400-Present

Spring 2014

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: http://ocw.mit.edu/terms.