

Three Gorges Dam Debate



1. Read the article “China’s Controversial Three Gorges Dam Looks Unstoppable”.
2. Frame the issue (complex, interconnected, and controversial).
3. “The dam’s economic gains outweigh the human, spiritual, and environmental losses.”
4. Write a journal entry deciphering your individual views on the dam.
5. The class will be divided into the following roles:

Against

- Lu Fang - Farmer *3
- Fuying Liu - Resettlement Bureau *3
- Patricia Adams - Environmentalists * 3

For

- Lu You Mei - Planning Department * 3
- Nelly Ng - Heritage Worker *3
- Sheila Campell - Engineering Consultant *3

Press Corps *10

- BBC *2
- Asia TV *2
- CBC *2
- New Internationalist *2
- New York Times *2

Judges *3 – Representatives from

- Greenpeace
- U.N.
- Chinese Government

6. Research your role in preparation for the debate.

Stakeholders

- Review the material and your role card
- You will decide who will be the person introducing your position and saying your 3 min opening
- The other 2 people in your group are referred to as advisors (they must talk too)

Panel

- You are in charge of running the show!! Remember to introduce yourselves!!
- You will decide the order of the discussion
- You will keep the scrum and the discussion in control
- You will keep an eye on the time
- You will collectively read the materials and generate an introduction
- You will have to generate a list of pointed questions to ask through out the discussion

Press Corps

- Need to listen to all intro and information given, take notes
- When the scrum begins, the Panel will ask for questions from Press Corps
- When asking questions – please stand up and say which newspaper you are from and then ask your question
- To prepare the press corps will have to read all additional information and generate a list of 12 good solid questions
- Be prepared to back up your questions with evidence and support

7. Debate.

8. Write another one page reflective journal discussing the final outcome of the debate.