

Adjustment Level:	Lower Intermediate-Advance
Target Skill to be improved:	Speaking and Reasoning
Title:	Debate is Fun (Free conversation)
Topic for Debate:	Should the game of football adopt FIFA's six-plus-five plan for a maximum of five foreign players in a club size?

Introduction: This lesson gives the student more speaking opportunities in expressing his thoughts that would improve his/her speaking and reasoning skills. The student would also learn various expressions for agreeing and disagreeing.



Resolved: Should the game of football adopt FIFA's six-plus-five plan for a maximum of five foreign players in a club side?
Should the European Union change its rules to allow this?



IDEA GENERATOR

Pros

- Limiting the number of overseas players will be good for home-grown sportsmen.
- Reducing the number of foreign players would be good for the national team.
- This plan would be good for club football. Once the local team was a real source of local identity, with many home-grown players proud to wear the shirt of the club they grew up with.

Cons

- Limiting the number of foreign players will weaken the quality of domestic football.
- Reducing the number of foreign players would be bad for the national team.
- This plan would be bad for club football by lowering the standard of games.
- FIFA's plan is illegal under European Union rules. These say that you can't discriminate against people from other EU countries on the grounds of their nationality - exactly what the six-plus-five plan would do.

See for example:

Person A: "In my opinion, I believe that limiting the number of overseas players will be good for home-grown sportsmen".

Person B: "I strongly disagree with the proposition since I believe that Limiting the number of foreign players will weaken the quality of domestic football".

Expressions for Agreeing and Disagreeing

Stating an opinion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In my opinion... • The way I see it... • If you want my honest opinion.... • According to Lisa... • As far as I'm concerned... • If you ask me...
Asking for an opinion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's your idea? • What are your thoughts on all of this? • How do you feel about that? • Do you have anything to say about this? • What do you think? • Do you agree? • Wouldn't you say?
Expressing agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I agree with you 100 percent. • I couldn't agree with you more. • That's so true. • That's for sure. • (slang) Tell me about it! • You're absolutely right. • Absolutely. • That's exactly how I feel. • Exactly. • I'm afraid I agree with James. • I have to side with Dad on this one. • No doubt about it. • (agree with negative statement) Me neither. • (weak) I suppose so./I guess so. • You have a point there. • I was just going to say that.
Expressing disagreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I don't think so. • (strong) No way. • I'm afraid I disagree. • (strong) I totally disagree. • I beg to differ. • (strong) I'd say the exact opposite. • Not necessarily. • That's not always true. • That's not always the case. • No, I'm not so sure about that.
Interruptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can I add something here? • Is it okay if I jump in for a second?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If I might add something...• Can I throw my two cents in?• Sorry to interrupt, but...• (after accidentally interrupting someone) Sorry, go ahead. OR Sorry, you were saying...• (after being interrupted) You didn't let me finish.
Settling an argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Let's just move on, shall we?• Let's drop it.• I think we're going to have to agree to disagree.• (sarcastic) Whatever you say./If you say so.