Activity 24

"Think For Both Sides!"

Goal: anticipate arguments of the others

Teacher gives a topic for a debate (for example: "Should Homework be banned for primary school students?")

Students in small groups develop a list of arguments for only one side ("Yes, should be banned" or: "No, should not be banned").

In the next step they decide which argument is their most important one.

After this, students give a short reflection of their most important argument in the plenary. Then, students are asked to adopt the other side and develop a list of arguments for that position.

In the plenary, the teacher launches a debate between the groups.

As an exercise for quick thinking, students can be asked, out of cuff, to switch positions and debate the other side of the motion.