

Cognitive Bases of Behavior
Fall 2008
The Great Debates

Debate 1: Repressed memories represent distortions rather than true, unearthed recollections of past experience	
<u>Affirmative:</u> Clionsky Ross	<u>Negative:</u> Parent Taylor
Debate 2: There is one and only one semantic system	
<u>Affirmative:</u> Stern Wiseheart	<u>Negative:</u> Cohen Ewigman Kay
Presentation 3: What cognitive psychology has to say about biased messaging in advertising, politics, and health care	
Buhi Dodd Follansbee Fussell Lodha	
Debate 4: There is no emotion without cognition	
<u>Affirmative:</u> Lipe Nackeers	<u>Negative:</u> Tweedie Seib

Debates 1, 2, and 4 will proceed as follows: The affirmative side presents their argument (15 minutes), followed by the negative side (15 minutes). After a brief break, the affirmative side presents its rebuttal of the negative side's argument (5-10 minutes), and then the negative side presents its rebuttal (5-10 minutes). Content in the rebuttal will reflect only those points presented by the other side (it cannot be used to introduce new arguments for the presenting side). Trophies will be awarded at the end. Debate participants should make arrangements to cooperate on the development and presentation of the argument. Power Point slides to highlight the main points of the argument are recommended but not required. Members of each team can share aspects of the presentation and rebuttal.

For Presentation 3, participants should prepare a 10-minute presentation on the topic of their choice. Presenters should draw a specific link between their chosen message and some topic of relevance to cognitive psychology. Previous examples include pharmacy commercials, weight loss claims, political stump speeches, or claims of the striking success of medical or behavioral treatments. Humorous, or even outrageous, examples, are encouraged.