

LEARNING HOW TO 'PEEL' WITH WORDS- ISDS WORKSHOP

On the 9TH of September, 6 students of class 9 and 10 attended a workshop conducted by ISDS- International Schools Debating Society at Ramco Systems. Rakshitha R, , Shruti Balaji , Ria Sai of 9B, Ansh Bomb and Arvind Sivaram of 9D and Mahita Manikandan of 10B from PSBB NGM had qualified to attend this workshop from after a round of trials.

This workshop was skillfully conducted by Dhruva Bhat- the President of the Harvard Debating Club and Sachit S- alumnus PSBB NGM - both of whom had represented India at the WSDC- World School Debating Championship earlier. The students were taught important debating techniques like creating a model and defining a motion. Some of the motions that were debated were:

- This House Would Ban Gambling
- This Would Make school uniforms compulsory
- This House believes that Religious parties that do not have female heads should pay taxes.
- This House Would Ban Zoos
- This House would make voting in National Elections compulsory.

The students played fun games like **rebuttal tennis** in which they threw around arguments like tennis balls. Brainstorming sessions involved fun techniques like finding out words from A-Z relating to the motion:

“This House would make physical education in schools compulsory.”

‘**Stakeholder analysis**’ was a very interesting activity, which had already been introduced at the Debate Club of the school. Another fun technique was introduced with the acronym ‘PEEL’ – Point, Explanation, Evidence/Example and a legitimate link to the motion. It was a very useful and enjoyable experience which also gave them a lot of exposure to international debating.



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