One Minute Debates

The Seder is all about asking questions because posing questions, challenging assumptions, and debating Torah is how we learn from each other and transmit our tradition.

We invite you to partake in this debate culture with this fun game to engage the whole family. This works well with kids (and adults!) of all ages. Use these cards to spark short, energizing debates, and feel free to come up with your own creative arguments for each topic!

Advanced Prep:
Cut out these cards or create your own with index cards before Pesah.

How to play:
- Each topic has one “True” card and one “False” card.
- Each card has one or two suggested arguments, but feel free to come up with your own.
- For each topic, ask for volunteers or assign people cards.
- Consider working in pairs or teams, particularly with younger children.
- Each side gets only 30 seconds to make their case.
- Finally, the table votes on a winner.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>True Statement</th>
<th>False Statement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>KADEISH</strong></td>
<td><strong>Recitation of Kiddush</strong></td>
<td><strong>We should spill a bit of wine on the tablecloth.</strong></td>
<td><strong>False: Don’t waste food! Spills are messy.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>URHATZ</strong></td>
<td><strong>Washing Hands Before Appetizers</strong></td>
<td><strong>We should wash each others’ hands.</strong></td>
<td><strong>False: Whoever does the pouring might feel like a slave. Even royals should wash their own hands.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KARPAS</strong></td>
<td><strong>Eat a Vegetable Dipped in Salt Water</strong></td>
<td><strong>It is good to cry.</strong></td>
<td><strong>False: It is not good to dwell on sadness. Tonight is a time to celebrate freedom.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>YAHATZ</strong></td>
<td><strong>Breaking the Middle Matzah</strong></td>
<td><strong>It’s better to save things for later than use them now</strong></td>
<td><strong>False: Live in the moment, and enjoy what you have in the here and now.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MAGGID</strong></td>
<td><strong>Telling of the Story</strong></td>
<td><strong>Matzah is the bread of affliction.</strong></td>
<td><strong>False: Matzah is delicious and reminds us of our freedom.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MAGGID</strong></td>
<td><strong>Telling of the Story</strong></td>
<td><strong>This night is not really so different.</strong></td>
<td><strong>False: Are you kidding me?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MAGGID</strong></td>
<td><strong>Telling of the Story</strong></td>
<td><strong>It is okay to hope for the enemy to be punished.</strong></td>
<td><strong>False: We should never wish pain on human beings. It won’t make anything better or take away the pain that was caused.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MAGGID</strong></td>
<td><strong>Telling of the Story</strong></td>
<td><strong>You should say thank you even when your problems are not entirely fixed.</strong></td>
<td><strong>False: Don’t become complacent with how things are. Always strive for better.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MAGGID</strong></td>
<td><strong>Telling of the Story</strong></td>
<td><strong>It was enough for us</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This page contains playing cards with each section of the Haggadah.

- **רחצה** / RAHTZAH
  - Washing hands before bread
  - True: You're dirty, and you smell. Germs make you sick.
  - False: You're not that dirty, come on. Germs build up your immune system.

- **מוציא מצה** / MOTZI MATZAH
  - Eating matzah
  - Jews in America today are no longer afflicted.
  - True: We are safe and powerful.
  - False: Antisemitism is alive in the world, and is lurking beneath the surface in many places.

- **מרור** / MAROR
  - Eat bitter herbs
  - It is important to remember the bitter moments in our past.
  - True: They make you wiser... and more empathetic.
  - False: They just make you more bitter and sad. Let that negativity go!

- **כ嫚ך** / KOREIKH
  - Hillel sandwich of matzah and maror
  - A sandwich made of matzah can still be considered a sandwich.
  - True: Two slices and a filling!
  - False: If it crumbles on your plate and leaves your mouth dry, it isn't a sandwich!

- **שולחן ערוך** / SHULHAN OREIKH
  - Eating the festive meal
  - Make something new to eat at the Seder.
  - True: Hiddur mitzvah (beautifying the mitzvah). Spice it up and keep it fresh.
  - False: This night is all about nostalgia: go for the comfort foods you know!

- **צפון** / TZAFUN
  - Eat the afikomen
  - The afikoman tastes like dessert.
  - True: Yum, what better way to end the meal?!
  - False: Ick, does it contain chocolate?

- **ברך** / BAREIKH
  - Thank God for the food
  - It's better to express gratitude after the meal than before.
  - True: You're way more excited about saying thank you after being so satisfied by the delicious meal.
  - False: It's rude to enjoy a meal without first saying thank you.

- **הלל** / HALLEL
  - Psalms of praise
  - You can praise God even when things are still bad.
  - True: You can decide to see the good at any moment.
  - False: Praise in hard times is forced and inauthentic.

- **נרטצה** / NIRTZAH
  - Prayer that God accepts our service
  - We should sing all of the songs.
  - True: They're so great!
  - False: No one knows all the songs! It is so late, go to bed!