



The EU Debate

*Decisions, decisions, decisions. The ONE important decision (we are told) to make in our lifetime. How do we even begin to make a **rational** decision ready for voting day? We are here to help, well actually, we have two **politicians** to help make up your mind...*

What is REALLY going on in the minds of politicians?

European Union, the EU, the **referendum**, **Brexit** – all words that have been thrown in our faces by the media recently, but what do they really mean, and why exactly is this referendum important to us as human beings? I am sitting in a meeting room at the magazine's office, waiting for my guests to arrive. The coffee is brewing, the light streaming in from the window, yet I'm feeling a little bit nervous. My interview guests today are two very powerful women. Women that I have looked up to since I was a young girl myself. I've tracked their careers in politics and really wish I was as powerful as they are in government today.

In comes guest number one, also known as Tabitha Greenall: politician, women's rights **activist** and **influential** person in the conservative government. She arrives wearing a power suit to rival all other suits and stands tall, **emanating** confidence. She takes a seat and a coffee, shuffles papers and gets ready for the interview. Then guest number two arrives, Jennifer Dower, another powerful politician that has campaigned for women's equal rights and has an active **involvement** with Syria and the refugee crisis, calling on David Cameron to take more refugee children into the UK. We exchange **pleasantries** and begin the debate.

Q: Welcome to you both, let's have an open forum today to enable our readers to make an informed decision on how to vote. So Jennifer, how are you encouraging people to vote on June 23rd?

Jennifer: Well, I feel it is important that people make the right decision. I believe that we need to stay in the EU to keep ourselves safe and to keep the other millions of people safe who are also in the EU. David Cameron got us a good deal to stay in the EU to address some of the concerns the general public had...

Tabitha: I disagree with you Jennifer. I know that we are far better out of the EU. People are fed up and tired with the EU controlling what we do as a country and when, and I know that

the people I have talked to about this vote feel the same as me.

J: Who are these people? What survey did you do? You cannot make a sweeping general term like that, you do not have all the facts.

"David Cameron got us a good deal to stay in the EU..."

"We are currently paying £13 billion a year to be a member [of the EU] which is an outrageous figure!"

*Q: Ok, lets move on to our **economy**. We know that we have had a recession, which we are now thankfully out of, but countries like Greece have really struggled **financially** too. What impact does this have on whether we stay or leave the EU?*

T: Well, Laura, we are currently paying £13 billion a year to be a member which is an outrageous figure! Yes, we get a little bit of that money back but we as UK citizens and our elected government could spend that extra £13 billion a year on other things, such as the National Health Service (NHS) or education for example.

J: You're not one hundred percent correct there Tabitha! We pay in £13 billion a year but receive £4.5 billion to spend so being a member doesn't actually cost £13 billion a year.

T: It's still 7% of our NHS costs a year, and you know as well as I do Jennifer, that the NHS needs more money now to keep going!

*Q: Ok, on to another topic concerning the EU. One of the big topics actually; **immigration**. Jennifer would you like to begin?*

J: Thanks Laura. Immigration is a huge issue and one that cannot be solved by simply leaving the EU...

T: Absurd, I really don't think...

Q: Tabitha, let Jennifer make her point.

J: Thank you. As I was saying, the whole problem of immigration cannot simply be blamed on the EU. In fact, we have special border controls in order for people to get into the UK,

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The EU Debate – Y5m/Y6s (Black) – Text

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more so than countries like Spain, France and Germany so we only have ourselves to blame for the amount of immigration to the UK. The only reason why immigration is now a problem is down to sheer numbers. We simply don't have enough space in the healthcare, housing and education systems to cope with the numbers coming in.

T: Yes but under EU law we cannot prevent anyone from an EU country coming to live in the UK. The numbers have increased dramatically and the only way to take back control is to leave the EU meaning that our government can decide who can and who can't live in the UK.

J: But immigrants have **contributed** to our economy as well as things like our local services in such a way that overall, having more **migrants** is better for the UK. Not only that, but David Cameron has agreed to reduce **assets** such as child benefits to migrants meaning there is less **incentive** for people to migrate here.

Q: In some ways then, the fact that we have a migrant problem in the UK is positive. It means people want to live and work here because it is a fair system and has a growing economy. Right, moving on to another area that is argued in the media is security. It is an issue many politicians are debating over and in some ways linked to immigration.

T: If I may, I would like to begin... The EU states that we have to let anyone in who has an EU passport, and there are no detailed checks on any of these people that are coming in to the UK. So, for example, a person could come in to the UK even if they were a terrorist, **jeopardising** our national security.

"a person could come in to the UK even if they were a terrorist, jeopardising our national security"

"one of the terrorists from the London bombings ... was captured and faced justice under the European Arrest Warrant..."

J: No, we are stronger by staying in the EU. We are an EU member meaning we can share intelligence on individuals between countries. Many of our threats come from outside the UK; being in Europe with our closest neighbours enables us to be more protected. One of the terrorists from the London bombings in 2005 was captured and faced justice under the European Arrest Warrant, which is a benefit of being an EU member. We may not have had him captured if we were not in the EU.

T: I don't believe that for a second...

Q: Ok, we have time to discuss one final topic of the EU debate, farming and fishing. Tabitha, would you like to begin...

T: Thanks, Laura. Yes, before we can state our views, we have to make sure the readers understand what CAP is. CAP, which stands for Common Agriculture Policy, is a policy made by the EU in order, supposedly, to protect farmers in EU countries. I personally believe that this CAP is now past its best; out of date so to speak.

Why do you think that Tabitha?

T: Well, we pay more into the EU for CAP than we actually get back. If we left the EU we would have far more money to help support our British agriculture.

J: But without the CAP, many farmers would go out of business! Can you guarantee that our government would help support our farmers if we were not in the EU?

T: Many government officials have pledged that we would be able to use the money that we did not spend on being an EU member to give to farming. Of course we would support our farmers!

J: But 73% of our farming exports go to the EU. We need to stay in the EU to make sure this continues, we can't risk leaving the EU and hoping that we can still export to these EU countries.

T: Leaving the EU would not stop us from **exporting** and selling our goods to EU countries. Other countries will still want to buy from the UK, as well as move to the UK for work and investment.

Thank you to you both for helping to explain some of the topics.

"Leaving the EU would not stop us from exporting and selling our goods to EU countries."

"73% of our farming exports go to the EU"

Now all we can do is wait to see what Britain decides on June 23rd. Will we stay in the EU, or leave it? We will have to wait and see.

Which way will you vote?

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The EU Debate – Y5m/Y6s (Black) – Text

Like this? Find more differentiated Elections resources [here](#).

How does the layout and presentation of the article help the reader to locate information?

Do you think the author of the article, Laura, has an opinion on the EU debate? Explain your answer.

Who is in favour of leaving the EU?

Summarise the main points from the text from the point of view of staying in the EU.

Why is the title referred to as 'The EU Debate'?

What type of text is this? What themes and conventions are used in this type of non-fiction text?

Do you think the author has provided a balanced argument or do you think the text is used to persuade?

Give examples of technical vocabulary that are used in the text.

If you could ask Jennifer or Tabitha about the article, what would you ask?

Why are quotes used throughout the article?

Give two examples from the text when an ellipsis is used.

Give an example of a fact and an opinion from the text.

Is there any hostile language used in the article? Did the two politicians agree on everything?

Explain your answer.

What do you think would happen if there was more time for the interview?

Who has persuaded you most in the article? Explain why.

Write the meaning of each of the words.

rational _____

politicians _____

referendum _____

Brexit _____

activist _____

influential _____

emanating _____

involvement _____

pleasantries _____

economy _____

recession _____

financially _____

immigration _____

contributed _____

migrants _____

assets _____

incentive _____

jeopardising _____

exporting _____

Find the words in the word search below.

s	e	y	n	r	o	a	c	t	i	v	i	s	t	f
r	f	w	b	g	m	i	l	o	d	a	e	s	p	s
e	c	o	n	o	m	y	e	f	q	m	j	y	o	l
c	n	g	l	s	a	o	m	a	u	r	u	d	l	i
e	n	d	e	m	a	n	a	t	i	n	g	h	i	t
s	d	w	x	h	a	e	v	b	c	c	s	s	t	s
s	i	o	p	l	g	i	t	d	s	e	c	e	i	n
i	p	h	o	f	e	w	s	e	i	v	i	c	c	g
o	r	a	r	q	u	d	g	b	h	y	n	k	i	d
n	s	w	t	a	a	f	d	r	e	s	s	i	a	p
k	u	t	i	n	c	e	n	t	i	v	e	l	n	r
p	l	o	n	d	f	g	t	e	e	s	a	v	s	s
e	m	i	g	r	a	n	t	s	m	n	b	v	u	m
p	u	e	d	f	e	e	o	n	h	j	f	r	c	s
r	e	f	e	r	e	n	d	u	m	o	o	l	f	e

migrants exporting incentive activist economy

politicians emanating recession referendum

The EU Debate – SPAG

Re-write the sentences below using an ellipsis to remove some of the information. Make sure the sentence still makes sense.

- Immigrants have contributed to our economy as well as things like our local services in such a way that overall having more migrants is better for the UK.
-
-

- One of the terrorists from the London bombings in 2005 was captured and faced justice under the European Arrest Warrant which is a benefit of being an EU member.
-
-

Re-write the sentence below and add a feature to shorten the sentence, ensuring it still has the same meaning.

CAP which stands for Common Agriculture Policy is a policy made by the EU in order, supposedly, to protect farmers in EU countries.

Which words or phrases are nearest in meaning to 'involvement'? Tick one box.

often/many times	<input type="checkbox"/>
engagement/associated	<input type="checkbox"/>
painfully/with difficulty	<input type="checkbox"/>

Re-write the sentences below adding in your own subordinate clause.

We are paying £13 billion a year to be a member of the EU.

The numbers of migrants in the UK have increased dramatically.

I disagree with you Jennifer.

What is the name of the underlined punctuation marks in the sentences below?

The NHS needs more money now to keep going!

Absurd, I really don't think...

Write a question beginning with the word:

What _____

Which punctuation mark would be best to show that the speaker had been interrupted? Tick one.

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The EU Debate – Oral Teacher Questions

How does the layout and presentation of the article help the reader to locate information? *The questions/topics are in italics.*

Do you think the author of the article, Laura, has an opinion on the EU debate? Explain your answer. *No. The author has tried to keep the article balanced by adding quotes from both sides of the debate and allowing both sides to contribute to each question.*

Who is in favour of leaving the EU? *Tabitha*

Summarise the main points from the text from the point of view of staying in the EU. *We pay £13 billion a year to be a member which is a good deal; immigration is positive as it increases our economy; we can share intelligence and capture criminals under the European Arrest Warrant; CAP is important to keep farming going in the UK.*

Why is the title referred to as ‘The EU Debate’? *The author explores both sides of the referendum.*

What type of text is this? What themes and conventions are used in this type of non-fiction text? *Magazine article with an interview. Questions, facts, figures, opinions, column layout, quotes used to emphasise main points, informal style.*

Do you think the author has provided a balanced argument or do you think the text is used to persuade? *The author has tried to keep the article balanced but the politicians have tried to persuade.*

Give examples of technical vocabulary that are used in the text. *Common Agriculture Policy (CAP), government, EU, NHS.*

If you could ask Jennifer or Tabitha about the article, what would you ask? *Personal response.*

Why are quotes used throughout the article? *To identify and emphasise the key points of the debate.*

Give two examples from the text when an ellipsis is used. *“We are here to help, well actually, we have two politicians to help make up your mind...”, “If I may, I would like to begin...”, “T: Absurd, I really don’t think...”, “one of the terrorists from the London bombings... was captured and faced justice under the European Arrest Warrant...”*

Give an example of a fact and an opinion from the text. *Opinions beginning with: I feel/I think/I disagree. Facts include figures and specific information. The article is written to make it challenging to distinguish between fact and opinion.*

Is there any hostile language used in the article? Did the two politicians agree on everything? Explain your answer. *They interrupted each other, said the other was wrong and used the word ‘no’. They did not appear to agree on anything.*

What do you think would happen if there was more time for the interview? *Personal response.*

Who has persuaded you most in the article? Explain why. *Personal response.*

Write the meaning of each of the words.

rational – based on logic or reason

politicians – a person who is professionally involved in politics

referendum – a general vote based on the answer to one specific question

Brexit – an abbreviation of “British exit” referring to the EU referendum

activist – a person who campaigns for some kind of social change

influential – having great influence on someone, powerful, strong minded

emanating – to give out or emit something

involvement – being involved with something, contributing to

pleasantries – polite conversation, often between people who do not know each other

economy – the system of how money is made in a country

recession – a time when a country is not profitable, economic decline, industry and trade reduces

financially – in relation to money

immigration – the act of moving to another country to live

contributed – supply, help towards something

migrants – people who move from one place to another to find work or better living conditions

assets – a useful or valuable thing

incentive – motivation or encouragement to do something

jeopardising – to put someone into a situation in which there is a danger of loss, harm, or failure

exporting – sending goods to another country to sell

Find the words in the word search below.

s	e	y	n	r	o	a	c	t	i	v	i	s	t	f
r	f	w	b	g	m	i	l	o	d	a	e	s	p	s
e	c	o	n	o	m	y	e	f	q	m	j	y	o	l
c	n	g	l	s	a	o	m	a	u	r	u	d	l	i
e	n	d	e	m	a	n	a	t	i	n	g	h	i	t
s	d	w	x	h	a	e	v	b	c	c	s	s	t	s
s	i	o	p	l	g	i	t	d	s	e	c	e	i	n
i	p	h	o	f	e	w	s	e	i	v	i	c	c	g
o	r	a	r	q	u	d	g	b	h	y	n	k	i	d
n	s	w	t	a	a	f	d	r	e	s	s	i	a	p
k	u	t	i	n	c	e	n	t	i	v	e	l	n	r
p	l	o	n	d	f	g	t	e	e	s	a	v	s	s
e	m	i	g	r	a	n	t	s	m	n	b	v	u	m
p	u	e	d	f	e	e	o	n	h	j	f	r	c	s
r	e	f	e	r	e	n	d	u	m	o	o	l	f	e

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- Immigrants have contributed to our economy as well as things like our local services in such a way that overall having more migrants is better for the UK.

Immigrants have contributed to our economy... in such a way that overall having more migrants is better for the UK.

- One of the terrorists from the London bombings in 2005 was captured and faced justice under the European Arrest Warrant which is a benefit of being an EU member.

One of the terrorists from the London bombings... was captured and faced justice under the European Arrest Warrant which is a benefit of being an EU member.

Re-write the sentence below and add a feature to shorten the sentence, ensuring it still has the same meaning.

CAP which stands for Common Agriculture Policy is a policy made by the EU in order, supposedly, to protect farmers in EU countries.

CAP (Common Agriculture Policy) is a policy made by the EU in order, supposedly, to protect farmers in EU countries.

Which words or phrases are nearest in meaning to 'involvement'? Tick one box.

often/many times	<input type="checkbox"/>
engagement/associated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
painfully/with difficulty	<input type="checkbox"/>

Re-write the sentences below adding in your own subordinate clause.

We are paying £13 billion a year to be a member of the EU.

Even after recovering from a recession, we are paying £13 billion a year to be a member of the EU.

The numbers of migrants in the UK have increased dramatically.

Having looked at the data, the numbers of migrants in the UK have increased dramatically.

I disagree with you Jennifer.

After listening to your argument, I disagree with you Jennifer.

What is the name of the underlined punctuation marks in the sentences below?

The NHS needs more money now to keep going!

exclamation mark

Absurd, I really don't think...

ellipsis

Write a question beginning with the word:

What **Accept any question beginning with 'what'. Ensure it makes sense.**

Which punctuation mark would be best to show that the speaker had been interrupted? Tick one.

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