

# 2023 Yale Invitational

## *Parliamentary Debate Motions*

This file contains a history of the motions used by round in the Parli division of the 2023 Yale Invitational.

### Saturday

#### Round 1

##### **AI: Because everyone's doing it!**

Several prominent figures have recently called for a pause in AI development for risk assessment and regulation.

*THW enact a pause in AI development.*

Generative AI programs like ChatGPT are trained using massive amounts of information "scraped" from accessible sites on the internet.

*THBT developers should pay original authors for material used in training generative AI programs.*

A US Court recently rejected an attempt to copyright artwork created using generative AI.

*THW allow copyright on work produced by AI.*

#### Round 2

##### **Mentorship.**

*As an emerging economy, THW follow China as a model.*

*As an emerging economy, THW follow India as a model.*

*As an emerging economy, THW follow the United States as a model.*

#### Round 3

##### **Elections**

Most democracies apportion legislative seats by population and geography.

*THW apportion seats in the legislature by population for recognized interest groups, e.g., by gender, minorities, economic interests, etc.*

*THW implement a mandatory retirement age for all elected officials.*

*THW implement term limits for all elected officials.*

## Round 4

### **Creative destruction (In remembrance of Joseph Schumpeter)**

Lenin said, "The capitalists will sell us the rope with which we hang them."

*THBT, on balance, capitalism is failing.*

Former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said, "The problem with socialism is that eventually you run out of other people's money."

*THBT, on balance, socialism is failing.*

John Adams said, "There never was a Democracy yet that did not commit suicide."

*THBT, on balance, democracy is failing.*

## Round 5

### **College**

The demand for places at elite colleges greatly exceeds the supply.

*THBT elite colleges should accept students strictly on objective measures of ability.*

College is expensive. To cover costs colleges often favor students from outside their jurisdiction who pay full tuition, over local students who pay a reduced rate: for example, from other US states for US state colleges and universities in the US, or from other countries for colleges and universities in the US and the UK.

*THR this favoritism.*

Many employers require a college degree, regardless of major, when posting job qualifications or as a condition of employment.

*THW forbid requiring a college degree as a condition of employment.*

## Sunday

### **Doubles**

#### **Who's at fault?**

There has been legal action, especially in the United States, to hold companies responsible for the effects of their products, even though these products were subject to regulation, legally sold, and voluntarily purchased. Where successful, the result has been monetary damages, but the products have not been banned. (This "info slide" pertains to all three motions.)

*THBT fossil fuel companies should not be held liable for damage from climate change.*

*THBT drug companies should not be held liable for damage from substance abuse.*

*THBT tobacco, cigarette and vaping companies should not be held liable for harms from smoking.*

### **Octos**

#### **Corporations**

Elon Musk's ownership interest in SpaceX, Tesla, and Twitter permit him to make major decisions affecting these corporations and their customers with little or no oversight.  
*THW not permit one person to control a large corporation.*

One consequence of COVID is that many people were able to work from home. Many corporations are now pressing for them to return to the office.  
*THBT employees have a right to work from home where possible.*

The US government's antitrust case against Google has recently gone to trial. Lawyers from Google and other companies involved have successfully petitioned the Judge to block public access to most testimony and evidence to protect confidential business information.  
*THW require such trials to be open to the public.*

## Quarters

### **Economics**

*THBT socialism is the best organizing principle for an economy.*

*THBT capitalism is the best organizing principle for an economy.*

*THBT state capitalism is the best organizing principle for an economy.*

## Semis

### **O tempora, o mores**

Publishers are revising old books to remove language or characters now considered offensive, in some cases where the original author is no longer alive (e.g., Roald Dahl).  
*THBT works should only be revised by the original author.*

France and Canada ban the wearing of religious symbols or clothing in public institutions, including schools, even where the items do not interfere with the wearers' or others' activities.  
*THR these bans.*

Saudi Arabia, through its sovereign wealth fund, has been spending on commercial sports teams and events—golf, football/soccer, tennis—some say as an investment, others say as public relations.  
*THR government ownership of commercial sporting events.*

## Finals

### **What's the worst that could happen?**

*THBT the most important problem facing the world is economic inequality.*

*THBT the most important problem facing the world is political disfunction.*

*THBT the most important problem facing the world is climate change.*