Thoughts on Debate

I thought that all of the debates were very good. It is very difficult to debate in your native language. It is even harder to debate in a foreign language. よくできました!!!

Once again, it is important to remember the strong debate phrases . . .

I think that ~ because . . .

It is true that ~ but . . .

I agree that ~ but

What you said is not true because . . .

I disagree that . . .

Please remember how to ask questions:

You said that [A], but I think that [B], what do you think?

Do you think that . . . ?

You said that Why?

It is true. . . isn't it?

The main difficulty:

Many of the pairs had not prepared questions.

Debating is not just speaking.

You should anticipate your partner's ideas, and think of some good questions BEFORE

the debate.

anticipate = 予測する

Speaking Hints:

You have studied Subject+Verb+Object+Complements (SVOC) for many years, but it is hard to speak SVOC naturally. I find that Japanese students have a hard time *choosing* a subject. Please practice and please be careful:

Bread has many kinds. パンが種類をたくさん持っています。

(this "has" = 持っています)

==> There are many kinds of bread. パンの種類がたくさんある。

Be careful when you look in a dictionary. Sometimes the words are not the same as Japanese:

In the country, traffic is not very much.

(X)

In the country, there is not much public transportation.

(O)

In the city, the traffic is very heavy.

(O)