

Sparks of Change Answer Key

Model Responses

For Eco-Friendly Alternatives:

Eco-friendly options still bring beauty to the festival without harming the planet. Traditional fireworks cause air pollution and affect animals and people with breathing problems. Diwali is about light and renewal-modern alternatives honor that spirit in a cleaner, safer way.

Against Replacing Fireworks:

Fireworks are an ancient part of Diwali's energy and excitement. They symbolize the triumph of light over darkness and bring families together. Instead of banning them, we should focus on using them responsibly and limiting pollution through stricter controls.

(Accept any logical, well-reasoned argument supported with evidence or reflection.)

Teacher's Guide

- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - For younger or less experienced debaters, provide sentence stems like *"I believe that..."* or *"One strong reason is..."*.
 - Encourage advanced students to cite real examples or statistics in their argument.
- **Engagement Ideas:**
 - Divide the class into two teams for a mini-debate. Allow students to present opening statements, rebuttals, and conclusions.
 - Have a "silent debate" where students post sticky notes under "For" or "Against" and respond to others' ideas in writing.
- **Extension Activity:** Connect to environmental science by researching how fireworks impact air quality during festival seasons around the world.