

Debate vs. Dialogue

Debate pontificates,
but dialogue
communicates.

Debate wants to lecture,
whereas dialogue
desires to learn.

Debate depends on words;
dialogue, however,
relies on wisdom.

Debate alternates
monologues;
dialogue engages in
conversation.

Debate wants to
convince you;
dialogue would rather
understand you.

A debater faces an
opponent;
in dialogue
there are only
partners.

A debater looks
to score;
those in dialogue
open a door.

Debate starts a
tennis match;
those in dialogue
row the same boat.

A debater, right or wrong,
wants to win;
in dialogue only truth
gains the victory.

To hesitate in debate
is a disaster;
to admit ignorance
in dialogue
is a step forward.

Debaters talk
at each other;
in dialogue
you speak
with one another.

Debaters are prone
to name-calling;
in dialogue
you call each other
by name.

So, when you talk,
remember that
it's not hard to go
from debate to hate;
but you can't be in dialogue
without love.

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