

## 6.56 Should we use less electricity?

**Topic:** Conservation

**Subtopic:** Energy sources

**Activity type/skill:** Text organisation

**Literacy focus:** Writing

**Genre:** Persuasive texts

### Objective

- Become familiar with the structure of an argument.
- Distinguish between arguments for and against.

### What you need

- Student worksheet (see next page)

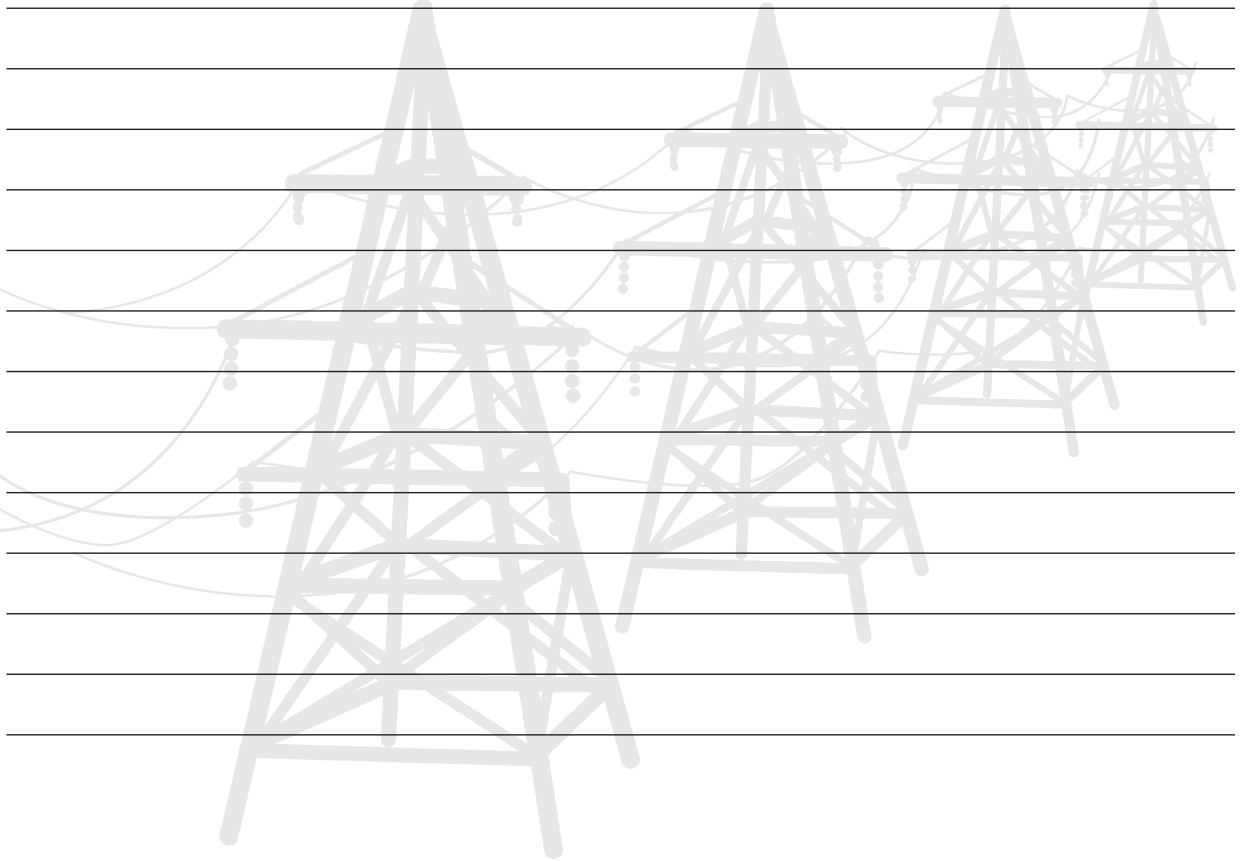
### What to do

1. Look at the student worksheet and talk about the question. Have students decide whether they think we should or shouldn't use less electricity.
2. Explain that there are two jumbled texts at the bottom of the worksheet. Have students identify the parts of the text that support their own opinion and copy them in the correct order on the lines above.

### Extending the activity

- Have students take turns to state their opinion on another topic – Should we use less oil? – and support it with detailed reasons. Have other students interrupt with Why? if reasons are not given and supported adequately.
- Give the group a topic and divide the students into teams – one to take the affirmative and the other the negative for a simple debate. Give the teams time to develop their arguments and present them – one student gives the opening, another gives reason 1, another gives reason 2, another gives the closing, in sequence. At the end, the whole group votes on which team was the most convincing.

## Should we use less electricity?



In conclusion I believe, for these reasons, we shouldn't use less electricity.

Secondly, making electricity is expensive. If we waste electricity we will have less money for schools and hospitals.

Firstly, if we use too much, we will have to make some electricity from coal and this pollutes the atmosphere.

I think we should use less electricity.

Firstly, electricity is useful. We use it every day for lighting and heating. People are making useful new things like DVD players that use electricity.

So, I think we should all try to save electricity.

I think we shouldn't use less electricity.

Secondly, we should keep using electricity because it is the cleanest fuel.