

# THE GREEN GAMBLE

**Debate your choices. Balance your values. Take the risk.**



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## Goal of the game:

In The Green Gamble, players defend everyday lifestyle choices in a short debate, arguing for what they believe (or pretend to believe) is the most sustainable and/or financially responsible path. But here's the twist: everyone – even the audience – is at risk of gaining or losing points based on what they would have done in real life.

Keep your Hearts (❤) and Money (💵) balanced.

Lose either, and you're out.

Be the last player standing – or the one with the most points at the end of the game.

## What you need:

- 24 numbered Debate Cards, each with:
  - Option 1 (A): one version of the dilemma
  - Option 2 (B): the opposing choice
- A printed deck or card stand for each side: A & B.
- Tokens or counters for:
  - ❤ Hearts
  - 💵 Money
- A shared scoreboard or tracking sheet
- Pens and paper for quick note-taking
- Timer (phone, stopwatch, etc.)

## Player Setup:

- Each player starts with:
  - ❤ 5 Hearts + 💵 5 Money
- Tokens are kept in front of each player.
- If they lose or gain tokens, they return them to or take them from the Bank.
- Cards are displayed in two visible columns:
- Left = Option A
- Right = Option B
- Both cards show the same dilemma, numbered, but with different choices and consequences.

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### Gameplay:

Each Round Follows These Steps:

#### **1. Two Players Become Debaters**

Go in order or randomly. Two players are selected to debate the same numbered card (e.g., Card 07).

#### **2. Choose a Side**

One takes Option A, one takes Option B.

Both read out loud which side they are defending so that the audience and their opponent knows.

#### **3. Prep Time – 30 Seconds**

Each debater gets 30 seconds to make notes or prepare thoughts.

#### **4. Debate – 1 Minute Each**

- Each debater has 1 minute to explain why their option is more sustainable (❤️) and/or more financially smart (💵).
- The tone can be serious, logical, emotional, funny — whatever works!

#### **5. Optional Rebuttal – 30 Seconds Each**

If desired, players may respond to each other with a short rebuttal.

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### Gameplay:

#### **6. Audience Vote**

- Once the debate ends, the audience votes — each person selects the debater they believe made the most convincing argument.
- Voting is public (players raise hands or place a token).
- However, the audience does not vote based only on belief — they may also vote strategically to protect or boost their own Hearts ❤️ and Money 💰.

#### Strategy Example:

A player low on Money may vote for the debater representing an option they suspect will earn 💰, even if the other argument sounded more ethical.

#### **7. Scoring for debaters:**

- The debater with the most votes is declared the winner of the round:
  - Gains +1 ❤️ and +1 💰
- The losing debater:
  - Loses -1 ❤️ and -1 💰
- Tokens are exchanged with the Bank.

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### Gameplay:

#### **8. Reveal the Card & Apply Audience Scores Audience Vote**

- The winning debater reveals their card (Option A or B), showing its specific sustainability and financial impact (e.g., ❤️+2, 💵-1).
- Then, each audience member checks which debater they voted for and applies the values from that option to their own score, whether their side won or lost.

### How the game ends:

You can set one of two win conditions:

1. Survival Mode: Play until only one player remains.
2. Point Total: Play a fixed number of rounds, then declare the winner as the player with the highest combined total of ❤️+💵.

### Strategic Tips:

- Debaters: Use logic, emotion, humour, or drama — make people believe your option is the wisest choice.
- Audience: Vote smart. Weigh your personal risk vs the debater's performance.
  - Sometimes a worse argument might save your tokens.
  - Sometimes a persuasive speaker could cost you your last Heart.

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