

Debate Outline

Rules:

- While a team is not required to use all of the time allocated to each debate component, speakers must stop immediately when the allocated time runs out.
- Team members are prohibited from speaking to the audience or opposing team except when raising hands and the chair states their name.
- Respect for others at all times

Chairs job- to introduce all participants and then to call on them in turn. Keep order in the room. The chair announces the winning team.

Judges use rubric to decide on winning team

Introduction- First Affirmative Side- 3 minutes (one team member)

- Begin with "ladies and gentleman"
- State resolution
- Present initial argument with 1-2 pieces of evidence
- Present proposal/plan for consequence or result

Introduction- First Negative Side- 3 minutes (one team member)

- Begin with "ladies and gentleman"
- Present initial argument with 1-2 pieces of evidence
- Present proposal/plan for consequence or result

Reconvene and discuss possible rebuttals for the next set- 2 minutes

Second Affirmative Side- 2 minutes (one team member)

- Attack the negative philosophy while defending the affirmative perspective
- Clash! Directly address each of the specific challenges issued by the negative team
- Explain why your evidence should be accepted as authoritative
- Describe the benefits of your plan for the future

Second Negative Side- 2 minutes (one team member)

- Attack the affirmative plan as unworkable, undesirable or unnecessary
- Clash! Counter all affirmative challenges
- Refute the affirmative case as a whole
- Try and refine and solidify your best points without sounding repetitive

2 minute work period to arrange response (seek information, probe areas of weakness, analyze evidence and clarify points)

Affirmative Side- 2 minutes Rebuttal (open to anyone with a card)

- Clash! Direct rebuttal of other's main points

- Used to review and crystallize central issues by challenging the other side's strongest arguments and tracing progression of important contentions
- No new material to present but can use new evidence to strengthen

Negative Side- 2 minutes Rebuttal (open to anyone with a card)

- Clash! Direct rebuttal of other's main points
- Used to review and crystallize central issues by challenging the other side's strongest arguments and tracing progression of important contentions
- No new material to present but can use new evidence to strengthen

Final discussion- 2 minutes to put final touches on conclusion

Conclusion- 2 minutes Affirmative Side (1 person from team)

Conclusion- 2 minutes Negative Side (1 person from team)

Common language:

"We state that....."

"We believe that....."

Counterargument or Rebuttal-

"You said that _____, give me evidence _____."

"The opposition says _____ but we state that _____."

"We understand your position about _____ but have you considered _____?"

"We concede your point but have you thought about _____"

"A strong fact is _____" / "A strong argument is _____"

"Although that may be true _____, have you considered _____."