

Debate: The Point-Counterpoint Speech

I. What is debate?

A. A way to solve problems where both _____ of an issue or question are presented and _____ side is judged a _____.

1. Characteristics of debate

- a. _____ - there is a winning side
- b. Participants take a _____ position and cannot _____ sides _____ the debate.
- c. _____ - Specific _____ are enforced
- d. Start with a _____ or _____ about changing the “status quo”(the way things are right now)
- e. Style is argumentative and persuasive.

2. Purpose: _____

B. Qualities of a good debate resolution:

1. _____ stated: “Resolved that...”
2. _____ - has two sides that can be argued
3. Interesting, important, and up to date
4. Worded so the affirmative side says _____ to the debate resolution.
 - a. affirmative argues for _____ in the present system
 - b. negative argues _____ change

C. Issues to which the affirmative speaker answers yes and the negative speaker answers no; These are actually called “case issues.”

- 1.
- 2.

D. _____ - The affirmative speaker _____ it and the negative speaker _____ against it. The Plan has 4 parts:

1. Tell the _____ changes proposed and state what _____ those changes will go into effect.
2. Tell _____ will be in charge to carry out the plan.
3. List the _____ given to violators.
4. If the plan costs the government money, how will it be _____?

II. Debating

A. Use evidence (note cards)

1. Evidence = _____
_____ These are facts and opinions found in printed sources.
2. Attack the credibility of your opponent’s evidence three ways:
 - a. Quality- _____
 - b. Source- _____
 - c. _____ - how many pieces of evidence are there?

B. Use reasoning (logic and emotion)

C. Organizing and outlining the debate case- This is actually the body of the

Constructive Speech:

Affirmative

A. We need the proposed change (reasons)

B. My plan **will** work

C. Change brings **benefits** (list)
(Prove **all** case issues to win)

Negative

A. No need for this change

B. **The** plan **won't** work

C. Change is **harmful** (list)
(Prove **one** case issue to win)

D. Speaking order

1. _____
(5 min.)
2. Negative speaker _____ Affirmative speaker (*see info below for Cross examination*)
(1 min.)
3. _____
(5 min.)
4. Affirmative speaker _____ Negative speaker (*see info below for Cross examination*)
(1 min.)
5. Shared Planning Time (3 min.)
6. _____
(2 min.)
7. _____
(2 min.)

E. _____

1. This is a question period.
2. Question evidence on quality, source, and amount.
3. Ask about clarification of something the speaker said.
4. Ask anything that discredits the ideas or arguments of your opponent.
5. Ask only _____ questions. Don't let your opponent use this time to argue his/her side.
6. Ask questions that will give you _____ for your _____ speech.

F. _____ **Speech**

1. Use this time to focus on 1 or 2 major _____ of what your opponent said.
2. Use statements such as "I asked John how he funded his plan." He said "with new taxes." "That won't work because..."
3. This is your summary that takes you from the complex (constructive speech) to the simple. (Rebuttal Speech). **You have _____ to convince the judges to vote for your side, so use your best arguments.**