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Each round of debate consists of 6 speeches:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Team | Speaker | Duration | Type |
| Gov | Prime Minister | 4 min | constructive |
| Opp | Leader of Opp | 5 min | constructive |
| Gov | Member of Gov | 5 min | constructive |
| Opp | Member of Opp | 5 min | constructive |
| Opp | Leader of Opp | 2 min | \*rebuttal\* |
| Gov | Prime Minister | 3 min | \*rebuttal\* |

\*\*Each speech has a 30 second grace period.









Prime Minister’s first speech: 4 minutes, constructive

1. **Greet** the judge (Mr Speaker or Madame Speaker), and your opponents

2. State your **case topic** clearly.

3. **Define** the terms in your case topic (if necessary). (Only define terms that are no obvious)

4. Announce your **first contention**

5. Give the support for your first contention

6. Announce your **second contention**

7. Give the support for your second contention

8. Announce your **third contention**

9. Give support for your third contention

10. Give a **quick summary** of your case

11. **Thank** the judge and urge him/her to “vote for the Government.”

Leader of the Opposition’s first speech: 5 minutes, constructive

1. **Greet** the judge (Mr Speaker of Madame Speaker), and your opponents.

2. **Intro:** Briefly reiterate the **case topic** (BRIEFLY!!!!), then state that you **accept** the definitions provided by the Government.

3. Outline your **opposition strategy** (how will you show the CT is a bad idea?); what is the **big picture idea** that best captures your objection to the Gov’s case?

4. There are actually many different ways which you can negate the Government’s case, but no matter what, you always need to **address their three contentions one by one.**

5. Give a **quick summary** of your main objections to the Government case.

6. **Thank** the judge and urge him/her “to vote for the Opposition”

A suggested time break down for this speech is 3 minutes of presenting your Opp case and 2 minutes of taking down the govt case. **Clash** is very important to mention.

Member of Government speech: 5 minutes, constructive

1. **Greet** the judge (Mr Speaker or Madame Speaker) and your opponents.

2. **Where things stand:** Briefly restate the **case topic**, what is the Opp’s main strategy against you, what is the big picture idea that supports you

3. Go through each of your **contentions** one by one.

a. Add supporting arguments to what your partner the Prime Minister said.

b. Bring up new examples to prove contentions in new ways.

c. Counter anything that the Opposition said about this contention.

4. **Summarize** your position.

5. **Thank** the judge and urge him/her to “vote for the Government.”

Member of Opposition speech: 5 minutes, constructive

1. **Greet** the judge (Mr Speaker or Madam Speaker) and your opposition.

2. **Where things stand:** Briefly restate the **case topic**, what is your main Opp strategy, what is the big picture idea that supports you over Gov

3. Basically you need to counter anything that the Member of Government said, while supporting the things that your partner the Leader of Oppostion said. Remember to address **each contention**.

Note: As you can imagine, by this point, things tend to be very muddled because you have been going back and forth on the evidence for and against each contention. Try to think very clearly about the order in which you offer arguments, and make it as clear to the judge as possible that you have a clear outline in mind.

4. Re-solidify your own contentions.

5. **Thank** the judge and urge him/her to vote for the Opposition

Leader of Opposition’s second speech: 2 minutes, rebuttal

NOTE: *Rebuttal*means that you can’t make any new arguments during this time, you can only use stuff that has been previously said.

1. **Thank** the judge and your opponents.

2. Give an **overview** of your team’s position. You are trying to convince the judge to vote against the case topic. **Highlight** what you think are your **strongest arguments**. Explain to the judge **why you should win,** and why the Government should not. *Do NOT go through each contention one by one.*

3. **Thank** the judge and urge him/her to vote for the Opposition.

Prime Minister’s second speech: 3 minutes, rebuttal

NOTE: *Rebuttal*means that you can’t make any new arguments during this time, you can only use stuff that has been previously said.

1. **Thank** the judge and your opponents.

2. Where do things stand in this debate? What are the **key issues?**

3. Give an **overview** of your team’s position. You are trying to convince the judge to vote FOR the case topic. **Highlight** what you think are your **strongest arguments**. Explain to the judge **why you should win**, and why the Opposition should not. *Try to avoid going through each contention one by one*, except for a **brief rebuttal** if you need to negate specific points made by the Opp.

4. **Thank** the judge and urge him/her to vote for the Government.



You should address everything you say towards the judge (Mr Speaker or Madame Speaker), not towards the opposing team. So only use the pronoun “you” to refer to the judge. **Never use the pronoun “you” to refer to the opposing team.**

To refer to the opposing team, use the following:

Our opponents have said that … We disagree with the Government that …

The Opposition’s point that … The Leader of the Opposition wants you to believe that …



**Points of order:** stand up, say “point of order,” say which point you are calling and explain why

--exceeded time limit (remember there is a 30 second grace period, so don’t call time too early)

--bringing up entirely new arguments in rebuttal speech (remember, new examples are ok)

--opponent has significantly misquoted you in a way that changes the intended meaning

**Point of Information**

--A question about the case topic, for example: How will this be implemented? Who will pay for it?

**Point of Clarification**

**--**If you’re confused about a definition, can’t understand the team’s arguments, etc.

We encourage you to make one question during each speech.

If you are confused about what the speaker is saying at any point in the round, don’t hesitate to make a point of information or clarification. Simply raise you hand and wait to be called on. However, you should refrain from asking more than three questions during a round, for it can be disruptive.

**Judges:**

In response to a point of order, the judge will determine how to proceed with the round.

**Sign-posting**

The judge has to keep track of all the arguments that are made, so it is really helpful to provide a verbal outline (this is known as “sign-posting”) as you go along.

*Our first contention is … To support this first contention, we’d like to argue that … … … and … … …*

*Our second contention is … The first point we’d like to make under the second contention is …*

*The second point we’d like to make under the second contention is …*

*Now that we’ve proved our second contention …*

*First we’d like to talk about some problems with the Government’s first contention …*

*Now we’re going to talk about why we disagree with the Government’s second contention …*

*Another reason why we disagree with the Government’s second contention …*

You ARE allowed to

-write notes to your partner while your opponents are speaking

-whisper very quietly to your partner while your opponents are speaking

-bring notes with you when it is your turn to speak

-use a cellphone as a timing device, if it is in airplane mode

You are NOT allowed to

-look anything up on your phone DURING the round, or use the phone for anything except timing (no texting, etc)