

Debate Format

Prep with Your Teammates (4 min)

Opening Affirmative Statement (2 min)

Opening Negative Statement (2 min)

First Affirmative Point (Total 2 minutes)

- Gives the 1st point from the affirmative argument
- While listening, 1st negative decides which point s/he will refute and writes it down
- (Important: No counterargument yet--you will have a chance to refute the third negative point.)

First Negative Point (Total 3 min)

- Gives the 1st point from the negative argument (2 min)
- Reports element from the affirmative argument, presents counterargument (1 min)
- While listening, 2nd affirmative decides which point s/he will refute

Second Affirmative Point (Total 3 min)

- Gives 2nd point from the affirmative argument (2 min)
- Reports element from the negative argument, presents counterargument (1 min)
- While listening, 2nd negative decides which point s/he will refute and writes it down

Second Negative Point (Total 3 min)

- Gives 2nd point from the negative argument (2 min)
- Reports element from the previous affirmative argument, presents counterargument (1 min)
- While listening, 3rd affirmative decides which point s/he will refute and writes it down

Third Affirmative Point (Total 3 min)

- Gives 3rd point from the affirmative argument (2 min)
- Reports element from the negative argument, presents counterargument (1 min)
- While listening, 3rd negative decides which point s/he will refute and writes it down

Third Negative Point (Total 3 min)

- Gives 3rd point from the negative argument (2 min)
- Reports element from the previous affirmative argument, presents counterargument (1 min)

Final Counter Argument (1 minute)

- The first affirmative speaker has a chance to make a counterargument in response to the last point from the negative argument.

Break to Consult with Your Teammates (2 min)

Crossfire (Open Q&A Session) (8 min)

- During this time, you will have the chance to argue freely, raise questions that were not raised in the first part of the debate, and engage in a more open and spontaneous form of argument; a member of the negative team has up to one minute to ask a question, after which a member of the affirmative team has up to one minute to respond and then ask a question of his/her own; keep going in the same fashion until time runs out

Break to Consult with Your Teammates (2 min)

Closing Statements for Affirmative (2 min)

- Has listened to all arguments -- summarizes the strongest points for the affirmative while pointing out the weaknesses of the negative

Closing Statements for Negative (2 min)

- Has listened to all arguments -- summarizes the strongest points for the negative while pointing out the weaknesses of the affirmative

(Credit Stephanie Mikelis)