

Public Forum Debate

I. Introduction

A. In Public forum debate, you and your partner argue one side of a “Resolution”

1. Definition of Resolution:

2. Sides of Debate

a) Pro: _____

b) Con: _____

c) How do you know if you are pro/con?

B. September Resolution:

II. Order of the Speeches/Format of the Round

A. **Step-By-Step Debate Guide**

Speech - Who?	Time	What Happens
1st Pro Speech Pro Speaker #1	4 Min	The first pro speaker reads the prepared pro speech.
1st Con Speech Con Speaker #1	4 Min	The first con speaker reads the prepared con speech.
Crossfire #1 Pro Speaker #1 Con Speaker #1	3 Min	Involving the 1st Pro and Con speaker, each debater is allowed to ask each other questions about the topic. Usually, the debaters will stand in the front of the room during this time.
2nd Pro Speech Pro Speaker #2	4 Min	The 2nd Pro speaker will make arguments against the Con speech that was just read. Arguments should follow the claim/warrant/impact process and refute claims made by the Con.
2nd Con Speech Con Speaker #2	4 Min	The 2nd Con speaker will refute the 1st Pro speaker’s speech and also argue why the claims made in the last speech are false. The 2nd Con must be careful to ensure that they argue everything from both the 1st and 2nd Pro speakers.

Crossfire #2 Pro Speaker #2 Con Speaker #2	3 Min	Involving the 2nd Pro and Con speaker, each debater is allowed to ask each other questions about the topic. Usually, the debaters will stand in the front of the room during this time.
1st Pro Speech 1st Pro Speaker	2 Min	The 1st Pro speaker refutes the claims made by the 2nd con speaker in their last speech.
1st Con Speech 1st Con Speaker	2 Min	The 1st Con speaker refutes the claims made by the 1st Pro speaker in their last speech.
Grand Crossfire Pro Speaker #1 & #2 Con Speaker #1 & #2	3 Min	Involving all four debaters, debaters are allowed to ask each other questions about the topic. Debaters will usually remain seated during this time.
2nd Pro Speech Pro Speaker #2	2 Min	The 2nd Pro speaker will summarize the round into one or two main arguments.
2nd Con Speech Con Speaker #2	2 Min	The 2nd Con speaker will summarize the round into one or two main arguments.

B. Complete the **Debate Round Handout** for a prize! One per team!

III. Argumentation & Research

A. What makes a complete argument?

1. _____

a) Definition:

2. _____

a) Definition:

3. _____

a) Definition:

B. Explain the difference between Defensive and Offensive:

1. Defensive:

2. Offensive:

3. Which is better for our arguments? _____

C. Research

1. Why do we research?

2. When you use research what do you need to make sure you do?

- a) CITE YOUR SOURCE!
(1) How do we do that?

- 3. You have 2 articles, each partner should read one article and highlight the important parts and label whether parts of it can be used for PRO or CON

IV. Writing Speech #1 - Now that we know how to write a complete argument and have done some research, it is time to write! You and your partner will write a PRO and a CON speech for the current resolution. Use the template here in your handout.

A. FIRST PRO/CON (circle one) SPEECH

1. Introduction

- a) **Attention Getter:**

- b) **“Which brings us to today’s resolution” (restate it)**

- c) **“We will be arguing FOR/AGAINST (circle one) the resolution.”**

- d) **Define terms. “For purposes of today’s debate, we have defined the following terms in the resolution”**

- (1) _____ means _____
- (2) _____ means _____
- (3) _____ means _____

- e) **“Our first contention is”**

- (1) **Warrant**

- (2) **Impact**

- f) **“Our second contention is”**

- (1) **Warrant**

- (2) **Impact**

g) "Our third contention is"

(1) Warrant

(2) Impact

h) In conclusion, it is clear that our argument FOR/AGAINST (circle one) the resolution is the best choice because

V. Flowing

A. Definition:

B. Shorthand

1. Definition:

a) Contention: _____

b) Definition: _____

c) Warrant: _____

C. Practice Flowing! Use a piece of paper to flow your partner's speech!

VI. Delivery

A. What are five things that are important when you deliver your speech?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

VII. Refutation

A. Definition:

B. How do we refute our opponents argument?

1. With defense!

a) Check their format: does it follow claim, warrant, impact

b) Answer their "offense" directly with "defense"

C. Activity: Work with your partner and write "defensive refutations" against the claims in both your PRO and CON speech.

1. Refute either the PRO/CON (circle one) speech

a) List your opponent's Contentions:

(1) Contention 1:

(2) Contention 2:

(3) Contention 3:

b) List your "defense" as you would in a Speaker #2 Speech

(1) Defense to Contention 1:

(2) Defense to Contention 2:

(3) Defense to Contention 3:

VIII. Crossfire

A. List the types of questions you can ask in crossfire:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

IX. Reading the Schematic

A. What is your code? _____

B. List your section for each round:

1. Round 1: _____
a) Are you Debating/Watching? (circle one)
2. Round 2: _____
a) Are you Debating/Watching? (circle one)
3. Round 3: _____
a) Are you Debating/Watching? (circle one)
4. Round 4: _____
a) Are you Debating/Watching? (circle one)

Debate Round Handout

Names: _____

Speaker #1: _____ Speaker #2: _____

Pretend you are arguing the PRO side & Fill out the following chart:

<i>Speech</i>	<i>During this Speech, Explain what you and your partner are doing:</i>
1st Pro Speech	Pro Speaker 1: Pro Speaker 2:
1st Con Speech	Pro Speaker 1: Pro Speaker 2:
Crossfire #1	Pro Speaker 1: Pro Speaker 2:
2nd Pro Speech	Pro Speaker 1: Pro Speaker 2:
2nd Con Speech	Pro Speaker 1: Pro Speaker 2:
Crossfire #2	Pro Speaker 1: Pro Speaker 2:
1st Pro Speech	Pro Speaker 1: Pro Speaker 2:
1st Con Speech	Pro Speaker 1: Pro Speaker 2:
Grand Crossfire	Pro Speaker 1: Pro Speaker 2:
2nd Pro Speech	Pro Speaker 1: Pro Speaker 2:
2nd Con Speech	Pro Speaker 1: Pro Speaker 2: