# The Great Debate

Name \_\_\_\_



#### **Debate Vocabulary**



1	Affirmative Team:
2	Constructive Speech:
3	contention:
4	debate:
5	Negative Team:
6	Rebuttal Speech:
7	refute:
8	resolution:



#### **Order of Speeches**



- 1. **Constructive Speeches:** Each participant has three minutes to present three contentions with evidence that support their side of the debate.
  - 1st Affirmative Constructive Speech (3 min.)
  - 1st Negative Constructive Speech (3 min.)
  - 2nd Affirmative Constructive Speech (3 min.)
  - 2nd Negative Constructive Speech (3 min.)
- 2. Preparation Time (2 min.)
- 3. **Rebuttal Speeches:** Each participant has two minutes to refute three of the opposing team's contentions.
  - 1st Negative Rebuttal Speech (2 min.)
  - 1st Affirmative Rebuttal Speech (2 min.)
  - 2nd Negative Rebuttal Speech (2 min.)
  - 2nd Affirmative Rebuttal Speech (2 min.)

# Debate Rubric

Criteria	5 points	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 point	Points
Presentation	Consistently used gestures, eye contact, tone of voice, and a level of enthusiasm in a manner that kept the attention of the audience and showed respect to the opposing team.	Usually used gestures, eye contact, tone of voice, and a level of enthusiasm in a manner that kept the attention of the audience and showed respect to the opposing team.	Sometimes used gestures, eye contact, tone of voice, and a level of enthusiasm in a manner that kept the attention of the audience and showed respect to the opposing team.	Rarely used gestures, eye contact, tone of voice, and a level of enthusiasm in a manner that kept the attention of the audience and showed respect to the opposing team.	Did not use gestures, eye contact, tone of voice, and a level of enthusiasm in a manner that kept the attention of the audience and showed respect to the opposing team.	
Information	The information presented was clear, accurate, and thorough.	Most information presented was clear, accurate, and thorough.	Most information presented was clear and accurate, but was not usually thorough.	Some information was accurate, but there were some minor inaccuracies.	The information had some major inaccuracies and was not clear and thorough.	
Rebuttal	All counter- arguments were accurate, relevant, and strong.	Most counter- arguments were accurate, relevant, and strong.	Most counter- arguments were accurate and relevant, but several were weak.	Some counter- arguments were weak and irrelevant.	Counter arguments were not accurate or relevant.	
Evidence	Every major point was well supported with relevant facts, statistics, expert testimony, and/or examples.	Every major point was adequately supported with relevant facts, statistics, expert testimony, and/or examples.	Every major point was supported with facts, statistics, expert testimony, and/or examples, but the relevance of some were questionable.	Some points were well supported with evidence, others were not.	All points were not supported with evidence.	
Organization	All arguments were clearly tied to an idea and organized in a logical fashion.	Most arguments were clearly tied to an idea and organized in a logical fashion.	Most arguments were clearly tied to an idea, but some were not organized in a logical fashion.	Some ideas were clearly tied to an idea and organized in a logical fashion.	Arguments were not clearly tied to an idea or organized in a logical fashion.	
Confidence	Clearly understood the topic in depth and presented the information convincingly.	Understood the topic in depth and presented the information with ease.	Understood the main points of the topic and presented the information with ease.	Understood the main points of the topic, but did not present with ease.	Did not show an adequate understanding of the topic.	

# **Total Points:**

# Comments:

#### **Debate Hand Signals**

#### 2 minutes left



1 minute left



30 seconds left



last 5 seconds



Name\_\_\_\_\_

#### The Reintroduction of Gray Wolves

**Pros** 

Cons

# Research Notes Contention 1

Contention:

Evidence:

# **Research Notes Contention 2**

Contention:

Evidence:

# **Research Notes Contention 3**

Contention:

Evidence:

#### **Constructive Speech**

#### Introduction

- Hook (attention getter)
- Greet the audience and judges
- Introduce yourself
- Explain which side of the debate you are on (affirmative or negative)
- State whether you agree or disagree with the resolution (include the resolution in this statement)
- Present your three contentions

#### **Contentions**

- Restate Contention 1 and provide support for the claim in the form of evidence and reasoning (be sure to cite sources)
- Repeat for Contention 2
- Repeat for Contention 3

#### Conclusion

- Summarize your main claims
- Restate your position on the resolution
- Thank the audience and judges for listening



Contention to Refute:	
Rebuttal:	
Contention to Refute:	
Rebuttal:	

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#### **Rebuttal Speech**

#### **Rebuttals:**

- State the opposing team's contention you are refuting and provide evidence against their claim.
- Repeat for Rebuttal 2
- Repeat for Rebuttal 3

#### **Conclusion:**

- Restate your position on the resolution
- Thank the audience and judges for listening



#### **Public Speaking Tips**

#### 1. Hook the Audience:

- You have 10 seconds to grab the attention of your audience
- · Use rhetorical questions or interesting facts

#### 2. Body language:

- Stand tall and confident
- Feet shoulder width apart and still (avoid swaying)
- Shoulders back (but not too far!)
- Head up
- Make eye contact with the judges and audience (or look at their forehead if eye contact makes you nervous)
- Use gestures to make important points
- Smile!

#### 3. Speak Clearly:

- Enunciate
- Be expressive
- Be energetic
- Vary pitch, volume, and speed

#### 4. Manage Nervousness:

- Deep breathing
- Positive self-talk
- Visualization

#### 5. Accept Imperfection:

- It's okay and normal to make mistakes during your speech
- Ignore the mistake and keep going
- Pausing, restarting, reacting, or apologizing will draw unnecessary attention to the mistake

#### 6. Pay Attention to Timing

- Watch for hand signals
- · Identify when you are speaking too slowly or too quickly
- Adjust your pace to ensure you finish within the allotted time

#### 7. Practice, Practice!:

- Practice in front of a mirror, your family, your friends, your stuffed animals, or record a video
- The more you practice, the more confident you will feel!



# **Debate Flowchart**

1st Constructive	2nd Constructive	1st Rebuttal	2nd Rebuttal
Contention 1:	Contention 1:		
Contention 2:	Contention 2:		
Contention 3:	Contention 3:		