



JUNIOR DEBATE SOCIETY:

DEBATE SCAFFOLDS

STRUGGLING ON HOW TO STRUCTURE YOUR DEBATE SPEECHES?
FOLLOW THIS HANDY GUIDE AND YOU'LL BE UNSTOPPABLE!

1st Speaker Opening Speech:

1. Define your stance

This house believes that... *{insert your argument in one simple sentence here}*

Define your three/ four key arguments as clear statements. i.e. ' *This house believes that it is an infringement on our human rights to... This house also believes that...* (It's usually best to propose/oppose on 3 points. (e.g. political, economic, social)).

2. Define your team's approach

' *I will be speaking about _____ and my partner [insert name] will be sharing her views on _____* '

3. Now, crack on with your points

Your points should have a **clear** structure, citing your thoughts/ ideas, your evidence (from reputable sources- see below!) and your reasoning.

IDEA - EVIDENCE- REASONING (+ SOLUTION).

(TIP: make sure that you have an argument. You **have to propose something**. Saying that something is 'wrong' and 'this is how it should be' is not enough. You must say that something is wrong and THIS is what you are going to do about it. "What you are going to do" is the debatable part of the definition!).

Take POIs when they're offered and keep reiterating your stance- it's important that you are seen to welcome the challenge!



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When you hear the warning bell (1 min to go...):

DO NOT start any new points.

Finish the previous point as quickly as possible and summarise what you have said so far.

Ideally, if possible, restate the single, core sentence as the last thing you say.

Second Speaker:

‘ Thank you, firstly, I would like to start with some rebuttal’...

Now take aspects of the opposing argument and explore reasons why they are untrue. Use evidence to support your ideas.

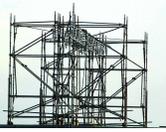
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