

RULES FOR DISCUSSION STYLE DEBATE

Junior High Discussion (2 Person Teams)

	Beginner Level	Open Level
1 st Affirmative Constructive	5 min	6 min
1 st Negative Constructive	5 min	6 min
2 nd Affirmative Constructive	5 min	6 min
2 nd Negative Constructive	5 min	6 min
Discussion Period	10 min	10 min
Break	5 min	5 min
Rebuttal Speech by 1 st Negative	4 min	5 min
Rebuttal Speech by 1 st Affirmative	4 min	5 min

Bilingual Junior High Discussion (2 person teams)

	Beginner	Open
1 st Affirmative Constructive in French	5 min	6 min
1 st Negative Constructive in French	5 min	6 min
2 nd Affirmative Constructive in French	5 min	6 min
2 nd Negative Constructive in French	5 min	6 min
Discussion Period (Debaters must show an ability and willingness to use both French and English)	10 min	10 min
Break	5 min	5 min
Rebuttal by 1 st Negative in English	4 min	5 min
Rebuttal by 1 st Affirmative in English	4 min	5 min

1. In this style of debate, each debater is expected to deliver a constructive speech and to rebut the arguments of the opposing team. After the first four speeches, a 10 minute discussion period is held in which a debater may, after being called upon by the moderator, make a comment or pose a question to an opposing debater.
2. The debate will be presided over by the moderator. The affirmative team shall sit on the right side of the moderator and the negative team shall sit on the left. Debaters will speak only when called upon by the moderator.
3. Debaters should always preface their remarks by addressing the moderator. They may also acknowledge the presence of the judges, though this is not mandatory. All references to other debaters should be made in the third person.
4. Discussion period:
 - During the discussion period, the moderator will call on the debaters to ask questions or make comments.
 - She will attempt to ensure that each debater is offered an equal amount of time in which to ask or answer questions. Questions should alternate from side to side.
 - Debaters should raise their hand, and upon being recognized by the moderator, proceed to ask, and respond to questions by their opponents.
 - Each contribution should not exceed one minute.
 - When questioning, the questioner should ask questions rather than make speeches. He/she may not insist on a yes or no answer.
 - The debater being questioned must answer any questions asked. Answers should not be longer than a sentence or two.
 - No new constructive arguments may be introduced during the discussion period, although new evidence may be used.
 - Judges should penalize debaters for a lack of participation.

5. Following the discussion period, the first debater for each team makes a team rebuttal and summary speech. During the rebuttal speech, debaters may not bring up any new arguments or new evidence except in direct refutation of material which has already been presented.
6. No points of order, privilege or heckles are permitted.
7. At the conclusion of the debate, the moderator will ask the debaters if there were any serious rules violations made by their opponents. Each team will be allowed to speak only once. The judges will determine if the infraction is legitimate, and whether any action is appropriate.

ALBERTA DEBATE AND SPEECH ASSOCIATION
JUNIOR HIGH BEGINNER DISCUSSION
Guide for Chairpersons/Timekeepers

Before the debate begins, write the resolution on the blackboard in your room and have the debaters write their names on the blackboard. Ensure that you have an odd (1, 3, 5 or 7) number of judges and that each judge has a _____ ballot. *When the debate is ready to begin, close the door and say this:*

On behalf of _____, I welcome you to round _____ of the _____

The resolution for debate is _____

Seated on my right and representing the Affirmative are the First Speaker: _____ and the

Second Speaker: _____

To my left, and supporting the Negative side, are the First Speaker _____ and the

Second Speaker: _____

On behalf of the House, I extend a special welcome to our Judges _____, _____,
and _____. Our Timekeeper is _____ and I, _____
am your Moderator.

I now introduce the first speaker of the affirmative team _____, who will speak for 5 minutes.
(After the first affirmative speech say:)

I now introduce the first speaker of the negative team _____, who will speak for 5 minutes.
(After this speech say:)

I now introduce the second speaker of the affirmative team _____, who will speak for 5 minutes.
(After this speech say:)

I now introduce the second speaker of the negative team _____, who will speak for 5 minutes.
(After this speech say:)

There will now be a 10 minute discussion period, where debaters may ask and answer questions, refute or provide further evidence supporting contentions made in the constructive speeches. No new constructive arguments or contentions can be introduced. I will control the discussion, alternating where possible from side to side commencing with the first debater who catches my eye. Each contribution to the discussion may not exceed one (1) minute. (After the discussion period say:)

There will now be a five minute break while the debaters prepare their rebuttal. (At this time ask the debaters who will be giving the rebuttal. After the five minute break say :)

I now call on _____ to give the negative rebuttal speech for 4 minutes. (After this speech say:)

I now call on _____ to give the affirmative rebuttal speech for 4 minutes. (after this speech...)

Wait for the Judges to complete their scoring of the debate. As the Judge finishes, collect his/her score sheet. When you have collected all the score sheets, check to see which team won the debate.

When you are certain which team won the debate, stand at the front of the room and say:

"It is the considered decision of our judges that this debate has been won by the _____ (affirmative or negative).

I would now invite our judges to make their comments on this debate.

At this point, take the ballots to the statistics office. Then return to the room and prepare for the next debate.

ALBERTA DEBATE AND SPEECH ASSOCIATION
JUNIOR HIGH OPEN DISCUSSION
Guide for Chairpersons/Timekeepers

Before the debate begins, write the resolution on the blackboard in your room and have the debaters write their names on the blackboard. Ensure that you have an odd (1, 3, 5 or 7) number of judges and that each judge has a _____ ballot. *When the debate is ready to begin, close the door and say this:*

On behalf of _____, I welcome you to round _____ of the _____

The resolution for debate is _____

Seated on my right and representing the Affirmative are the First Speaker: _____ and the

Second Speaker: _____

To my left, and supporting the Negative side, are the First Speaker _____ and the

Second Speaker: _____

On behalf of the House, I extend a special welcome to our Judges _____, _____,

and _____. Our Timekeeper is _____ and I, _____

am your Moderator.

I now introduce the first speaker of the affirmative team _____, who will speak for 6 minutes.
(After the first affirmative speech say:)

I now introduce the first speaker of the negative team _____, who will speak for 6 minutes.
(After this speech say:)

I now introduce the second speaker of the affirmative team _____, who will speak for 6 minutes.
(After this speech say:)

I now introduce the second speaker of the negative team _____, who will speak for 6 minutes.
(After this speech say:)

There will now be a 10 minute discussion period, where debaters may ask and answer questions, refute or provide further evidence supporting contentions made in the constructive speeches. No new constructive arguments or contentions can be introduced. I will control the discussion, alternating where possible from side to side commencing with the first debater who catches my eye. Each contribution to the discussion may not exceed one (1) minute. (After the discussion period say:)

There will now be a five minute break while the debaters prepare their rebuttal. (At this time ask the debaters who will be giving the rebuttal. After the five minute break say :)

I now call on _____ to give the negative rebuttal speech for 5 minutes. (After this speech say:)

I now call on _____ to give the affirmative rebuttal speech for 5 minutes. (after this speech...)

Wait for the Judges to complete their scoring of the debate. As the Judge finishes, collect his/her score sheet. When you have collected all the score sheets, check to see which team won the debate.

When you are certain which team won the debate, stand at the front of the room and say:

"It is the considered decision of our judges that this debate has been won by the _____ (affirmative or negative).

I would now invite our judges to make their comments on this debate.

At this point, take the ballots to the statistics office. Then return to the room and prepare for the next debate.

Debate Judge's Ballot Junior High Discussion

(Judges may not discuss the debate with one another until they complete the ballot)

Step 1 - Please complete the information below

- a) Judge's name _____
- b) Room # _____
- c) Category of debate (please check) Jr. Beg. Jr. Open
- d) Round (please check) 1st round 2nd round 3rd round Semi-final Final

Step 2 - Fill in the names of the debaters and, if applicable, their team code. Then go to step 3.

Affirmative (Team code ____)			Negative (Team code ____)	
Name _____	Name _____		Name _____	Name _____
1 st Affirmative	2 nd Affirmative	Criteria for individual evaluation A scale of 1 to 5, 1 is poor and 5 is excellent	1 st Negative	2 nd Negative
1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Organization: The speech should be well structured, logical & coherent, containing and effective introduction and conclusion	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Evidence/Logic: Facts, statistics & authorities offered in support of contentions must be sound. Credit should be given for thorough and relevant research.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Delivery: Poise quality & use of voice, combined with emphasis, variety and enunciation. Effectiveness and ease of gestures, and eye contact should be assessed.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Refutation/Clash: The ability to apply logic and evidence in refuting the opponents' contentions while defending your own.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Format: Each student is expected to participate. Questions & answers should be concise & well phrased revealing a sound understanding of the issues. The students should be courteous & cooperative.	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
____/25	____/25	Totals (please double check addition)	____/25	____/25

Step 3 - Use the flowsheet on the following page to take notes on the debate & record your impressions of the debate.

Step 4 - In the space provided below, **please check which team you believe has won the debate.** (Your decision should be based on an objective appraisal of the arguments (clash), evidence/logic & refutation which you have witnessed in the debate).

The winning team is: Affirmative
 Negative

Step 5 - Please complete the individual evaluations in the table above.

Step 6 - If time permits, the chairperson will call on you to make constructive and positive remarks.

Thank you!