

Oratory

Basic Rules

- “Significant and worthy” speech, generally persuasive in nature
- 10 minute speech (30 second grace)
- Memorized delivery (no notes)
- No more than 150 quoted words

Topics

- Anything you see that causes you to think, “That ain’t right” is a potential topic.
- Social, economic, moral, political problems; praise a person or idea; argue against immoral practices, laws, groups, or people

Structure

- This structure follows the “traditional” structure of problem-cause-solution. Another popular structure is cause-effect-solution. This outline also assumes two problems, causes, and solutions. There may be more.

Introduction

- a. Attention Getting Device – A narrative related to the topic that gets the audience’s attention.
- b. Link AGD to topic
- c. Thesis statement – One-sentence explanation of what you want done.
- d. Justification Statement – Explains why the topic is significant and immediate. Answers the question “So What?”
- e. Clear outline of your main points.
- f. Effective transition to Main Point 1.

Body Sections

Main Point 1: Problems (or Causes in C-E structure)

- a. Preview of the problems
- b. Problem 1
- c. Problem 2
- d. Effective transition to Main Point 2.

Main Point 2: Causes (or Effects in C-E structure)

- a. Preview of the causes
- b. Cause 1
- c. Cause 2
- d. Effective transition to Main Point 3.

Main Point 3: Solutions

- a. Preview solutions
- b. Solution 1
- c. Solution 2
- d. Effective Transition to Closing

Conclusion

- a. Review main points
- b. Restate thesis
- c. Reinforce call to action
- d. Closing statement (usually links back to AGD)

Delivery

- Aristotle created three persuasive appeals specifically for the context of speaking. One appeal, logos, is the use of logic and factual information. This includes statistics and any written or verbal documentation of your problem. Ethos is the use of credible sources to back your analysis. Newspaper sources give token credit to this appeal, but to make it shine, find experts to back you. Pathos is the use of emotion to persuade. This is typically done with the use of compelling narratives demonstrating the problem.
 - What information should the audience know so they understand the topic from your perspective? What arguments would someone with an opposing idea say, and can you refute that?
- Verbatim memorization is optional; students may deviate from the script to adjust to the audience.

Radio

Basic Rules

- Commentary on current events of the current school year
- 4:45 – 5:15 minute speech (NO grace)
- Delivered sitting, reading from paper, not facing the judge
- No more than 75 quoted words

Topics

- The idea is not to give us a retelling of the news, but your analysis and understanding of it. Topics can be political (parties, Congress, Presidency, elections), pop culture, or anything that's been reported on. Remember to keep it important and significant to your audience.

Structure

- Radios are mini-Oratories. In this vein, they can be “problem-cause-solution” or “cause-effect-solution.” There are also other structures, similar to Expository that can be used, too. Your topic usually dictates the structure.

Introduction

- g. Attention Getting Device – A narrative related to the topic that gets the audience's attention.
- h. Link AGD to topic
- i. Radio call sign (“This is Bill Gates from KUOW Seattle...”)
- j. Current Event you're going to analyze (concise, but sufficient explanation)
- k. Justification Statement – Explains why the topic is significant and immediate. Answers the question “So What?”
- l. Thesis statement – One-sentence explanation of your argument on the Current Event
- m. Clear outline of your main points.
- n. Effective transition to Main Point 1.

Body Sections

Main Point 1: (Background/History or Problems or Causes)

- e. Preview of the section
- f. Problem 1
- g. Problem 2
- h. Effective transition to Main Point 2.

Main Point 2: (Analysis or Causes or Effects)

- e. Preview of the section
- f. Cause 1
- g. Cause 2
- h. Effective transition to Main Point 3.

Main Point 3: (Solutions)

- e. Preview solutions
- f. Solution 1
- g. Solution 2
- h. Effective Transition to Closing

Conclusion

- e. Review main points
- f. Restate thesis
- g. Reinforce call to action
- h. Closing statement (usually links back to AGD)
- i. Sign off with radio call sign

Delivery

- Radio announcers speak clearly and often slightly slower than most speakers. Articulation and enunciation are key components of delivery.
- Because you are reading of the page, speakers should be smooth (i.e. it requires practice, even though you do not have to memorize your script).
- TIME, TIME, and TIME: You may time yourself. There is no excuse from coming in under or over time. Speakers ending before 4:45 or after 5:15 are to be disqualified.

Expository

Basic Rules

- Informative
- 8 minutes (30 second grace)
- Memorized (no notes)
- No more than 100 quoted words
- Allowed to use Visual Aids (VAs) of relevant, important components of the speech (not required)

Topics

- Everyday ideas, new research, theories, concepts, people, historical places, music, cool things that people should know about

Structure

Introduction

- a. Attention Getting Device – A narrative related to the topic that gets the audience’s attention.
- b. Link AGD to topic
- c. Thesis statement – One-sentence explanation of what your topic is.
- d. Justification Statement – Explains why the topic is significant and immediate. Answers the question “So What?”
- e. Preview of your main points.

Body Sections

Main Point 1 (What it is, history, development, etc)

- a. Preview sub-points
- b. Sub-point 1
- c. Sub-point 2

Main Point 2 (Today’s applications, how it works, etc)

- a. Preview sub-points
- b. Sub-point 1
- c. Sub-point 2

Main Point 3 (Future of topic, specific examples, etc)

- a. Preview sub-points
- b. Sub-point 1
- c. Sub-point 2

Conclusion

- a. Review main points
- b. Restate thesis
- c. Reinforce significance
- d. Closing statement (usually links back to AGD)

Delivery

- What should I talk about? First, you want to provide a description of your topic. What is it? What does it do? How will it affect your audience? Second, if your topic already existed, give us a distinction between old news and new news. What did or didn’t we already know? Third, how can this topic be applied right now? Fourth, what is the future of this item/concept? Fifth, how could this topic affect other things? These are only a few broad questions to get you started on the brainstorming process. (Good questions for other speeches, too!)
- Argumentative, persuasive, or entertaining material may be used to illustrate, enliven, or clarify the information; however, the emphasis must remain on the informative nature of the speech.
- VAs should aid, not distract from the speech. They should be visually appealing and visible from the back of a classroom. Consider backing colors, straight lines, bold text, and large images.
 - Practice using and referencing your VAs. Will you be using a VA stand or holding them? What will you do after you’re finished with a VA?
 - Take care of your VAs; use a plastic bag to protect them from liquid sunshine. Carry a glue stick or tape to repair wayward pieces.

ADS

Basic Rules

- Funny, but with a purpose (not unrelated jokes, acted out, in good taste)
- 6 minutes (30 second grace)
- Memorized (No notes)

Topics

- An oratory or expository topic that typically lends itself to humor

Structure

- ADS is one of the least-structured events. The need for a structure is still present, but the nature of that structure will depend greatly on your topic and your speech. The outline provided is the rigid “road map” that your judges will need to clearly follow you. An oratory structure works well, too.

Introduction

- a. Attention Getting Device – A narrative related to the topic that gets the audience’s attention.
- b. Link AGD to topic
- c. Thesis statement – One-sentence explanation of what your topic is.
- d. Justification Statement – Explains why the topic is significant and immediate. Answers the question “So What?”
- e. Preview of your main points.

Body Section

Main Point 1 (Problem/Cause)

- d. Preview sub-points
- e. Sub-point 1
- f. Sub-point 2

Main Point 2 (Cause/Effect)

- d. Preview sub-points
- e. Sub-point 1
- f. Sub-point 2

Main Point 3 (Solutions)

- d. Preview sub-points
- e. Sub-point 1
- f. Sub-point 2

Conclusion/Toast

- e. Review main points
- f. Restate thesis
- g. Reinforce significance
- h. Closing statement/toast (usually links back to AGD): A toast is a humorous concluding statement that usually acknowledges the implications of your speech. A speech on overprotective parents, for instance, may say, “I raise my glass, to overprotective parents who really just want the best for us...and their 250k investment to payoff in a nice nursing home.”

Delivery

- What is funny? Generally speaking, off-topic humor should be kept to a minimum. Political humor (especially strongly partisan humor) tends to be overused. What’s more important than finding one kind of joke that works really well is to have a strong balance of humor in your speech. The occasional pop culture reference can help your speech a lot. Just don’t make one kind of joke the majority of your humor. An effective way to approach the matter is to ask yourself the following question: “How can I make my content humorous?” Utilizing humor (in language choices and the like) as part of your content ensures that a “mix” or balance isn’t something you have to worry about, as it’s already built into your speech.
- *But I’m not funny.* This is part of a major myth of ADS. You don’t actually have to be spontaneously funny to succeed at ADS. You need to be a comfortable, confident speaker who knows his or her speech well enough to deliver humor without flinching when it doesn’t get a reaction (which it frequently will not). Preparing your speech allows you to become funny with the help of teammates, coaches, and ballots if you aren’t the class clown by yourself.
- *Note:* Stealing material from YouTube, comedians, and popular media is not funny. Your judges (usually) have a sense of humor and know where popular jokes came from; please don’t plagiarize!

Impromptu Speaking

Basic Rules

- One to three topics; speaker chooses one, preps for 30 seconds (no notes)
- 5 minute speech (30 second grace)
- No notes allowed during the delivery (may use the topic slip)
- Speakers cannot listen to speakers before them, but may remain after they speak

Topics

- Current events, words, quotations, proverbs, phrases, ideas, objects, names, policies, ideas

Structure

- 4-5 paragraph essay (2/2, 3/1)

Introduction

- Attention-Getting Device (example, anecdote, statistic, etc)
- Link to the general topic/theme
- Statement of significance (why it is relevant to the audience)
- Verbatim statement of topic/quotation
 - Thesis: definition or interpretation of the topic/quotation
 - Justification of interpretation (these are your main points supporting the thesis)
- Preview of points (taglines)

Body Sections (2/2, 3/1, etc)

- Topic sentence (statement of first point)
- Link/Example 1
 - Analysis of example (explanation, significance, relevance)
 - Explicit link to the topic/quotation
- Link/Example 2
 - Analysis of example (explanation, significance, relevance)
 - Explicit link to the topic/quotation
- Summary sentence (restate first point/examples)

Conclusion

- Restate topic/quotation
- Restate thesis and main points (review examples)
- Revisit Attention-Getting Device

Strategies

- Practice, practice, practice: start by writing out speeches to topics; practice with friends/family/stuffed animals/strangers/etc
- Work on time structure (when you should be approaching each point)
- A variety of structures and presentation styles work; the key is logical and deliberate organization so you communicate effectively
- Create a database of examples to review before competition (books, movies, theories, pop culture, current events, plays, people, television shows, Twitter, Facebook, corporations, etc)
- Find effective prep-time strategies—examples, intro, conclusion
- Make an argument, although you don't have to agree or disagree with it
- Strive for relevancy and significance for your audience
- Control all aspects of speaking: gestures, vocal variation, movement, facial expressions

Extemporaneous Speaking

Basic Rules

- Three topics; speaker chooses one, preps for 30 minutes
- 7 minute speech (30 second grace)
- No notes allowed during the delivery (memorize question verbatim)
- Sources: books, magazines, newspapers, journals, etc; either print or electronic (no internet, no prewritten speeches/intros, etc) [digital: highlights only, no notations, no plug-in, no internet, etc]

Topics

- Current events of the current school year
- Domestic and international politics, groups/organizations/alliances, countries, and people

Questions

- Types of questions:
 - Fact: ask for description or prediction (is, are, will, would)
 - Value: ask for application of personal or societal norms (should)
 - Policy: evaluation of a solution or prescription for a solution (can, could)
 - Closed-Ended Questions: unconditional yes or no answer
 - Will US airstrikes stop the Islamic State?
 - Should the United States use ground troops against Islamic State?
 - Can the US stop Islamic State?
 - Open-Ended Questions: conditional, analysis-based answers (proposals)
 - How will the US stop the Islamic State in Iraq?
 - How should the US stop the Islamic State Iraq?
 - How can the US stop the Islamic State in Iraq?
- The point of extemp is to answer the question (choose wisely)

Structure

Introduction

- Attention-Getting Device (example, anecdote, statistic, etc)
- Link to the general topic/theme
- Statement of significance/background (why it is relevant to the audience) [source]
- Verbatim statement of question
 - Answer: Yes, No, Proposal
 - Justification of answer (these are your main points supporting the thesis; independent of each other)
- Preview of points (taglines)

Body Sections (2/2, 3/1, etc)

- Topic sentence (statement of first point; yes/no/how/why—because...)
- Argument/Evidence 1 [source(s)]
 - Analysis of evidence (explanation, history, significance, relevance) [source]
 - Explicit link to the question (why it answers question)
- Argument/Evidence 2 [source(s)]
 - Analysis of evidence (explanation, history, significance, relevance) [source]
 - Explicit link to the question (why it answers question)
- Summary sentence (restate first point/evidence)

Conclusion

- Restate question (verbatim)
- Restate answer, thesis, and main points (review evidence)
- Revisit Attention-Getting Device

Sources

- For the information (up to date), but also supporting your analysis (NYT vs. Foreign Affairs)
- Full, current source citation (source, date) (New York Times on September 27, 2013)
 - Varied, diverse sources (newspapers, books, journals, magazines, think tanks)
 - Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, Political Science Quarterly, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Bulletin of Atomic Scientists, Council on Foreign Relations, Al-Jazeera, BBC, LexisNexis, etc
 - Listen to sources (broadcasts)
 - Find resources (library, public libraries, college/university libraries, online subscriptions)

Electronic Filing

- RSS Feeds
 - Feedly, NewsBlur, NewsVibe, Bloglines, JellyReader etc
 - Set up an RSS feed to your computer (RSS Reader), save articles to DropBox or Google Drive
- News Alerts (Google)
 - Can be set as an RSS Feed or email
- Google Drive
 - Shareable folders, available on desktop (Google Chrome)
- DropBox
 - Shareable folders, available on desktop
- Calibre (Kindle)
 - Formatted specifically for ebook devices
- Pocket (Google)
 - Save reading for later
- OSAA Rules: retrieval only, no phones, external storage devices allowed, no notations, highlighting or underlining in one color, no prewritten speeches/intros, no power, no communication, wireless disabled/removed, muted (no games/distractions), can share computers—no communicating

Knowledge Base/History

- Learn to pronounce names, countries, and organizations (BBC, al-Jazeera)
- CIA World Factbook (countries, government type, function)
- Know leaders and positions (especially in the US)

Strategies

- This is not about the news, it's about the analysis.
- Practice, practice, practice: start by writing out speeches to topics; practice with friends/family/stuffed animals/strangers/etc.
- A variety of structures and presentation styles work; the key is logical and deliberate organization so you communicate effectively.
- Utilize your prep time effectively (practicing speech, memorizing question/intro/dates/sources)
 - Most of your prep is before the tournament (reading sources, finding analysis, etc)
- Make an argument, although you don't have to agree or disagree with it.
- Strive for relevancy and significance for your audience.
- Control all aspects of speaking: gestures, vocal variation, movement, facial expressions.

Duo Interpretation

Basic Rules

- 10 minutes (30 second grace)
- Structure: Teaser, Introduction, Rest of script
- Performers, outside of the introduction, cannot look at each other or make contact
- No props or costumes
- Memorized
- Humorous or serious subject matter

Materials

- Must be from a single work of literature: short story, play, novel, poems, etc.
- Allowable material:
 - Print publications (includes, novels, short stories, plays, or poetry published in print)
 - Digital/online publications: only allowed from pre-approved online publishing sources for the current school year, per the National Speech and Debate Association rules.
- Not Allowed:
 - Recorded material (DVD, YouTube, etc)
 - Original material published in a high school publication

Delivery

- Understand your script: who are the characters? What are they like? What makes them realistic? How will an audience connect with them?
- Create an environment: where does your script take place? What are the characters doing in the scene?
- Work together: Practice in front of a mirror so interactions are realistic. Your reactions will be rehearsed, but should not look rehearsed. (Strive for genuine and authentic to the character.)

Resources

- What do awesome duos look like?
 - Check out the NSDA website for the National Championship Finals (all events)
 - YouTube also has some material (including college duos)

HI/DI

Basic Rules

- 10 minutes (30 second grace)
- Structure: Teaser, Introduction, Rest of script
- No props or costumes
- Memorized
- Humorous or Serious categories

Materials

- Must be from a single work of literature: short story, play, novel, poems, etc.
- Allowable material:
 - Print publications (includes, novels, short stories, plays, or poetry published in print)
 - Digital/online publications: only allowed from pre-approved online publishing sources for the current school year, per the National Speech and Debate Association rules.
- Not Allowed:
 - Recorded material (DVD, YouTube, etc)
 - Original material published in a high school publication
- Monologues are allowed

Delivery

- Understand your script: who are the character(s)? What are they like? What makes them realistic? How will an audience connect with them?
- Create an environment: where does your script take place? What are the characters doing in the scene?
- Practice in front of a mirror so interactions are realistic. Your reactions will be rehearsed, but should not look rehearsed. (Strive for genuine and authentic to the character.)

Resources

- What do awesome duos look like?
 - Check out the NSDA website for the National Championship Finals (all events)
 - YouTube also has some material (including college interps)

Poetry

Basic Rules

- Program centered and organized around a common theme
- 8 minutes (30 second grace)
- Need at least three poems or cuttings from three poems, and at least eight lines from a poem
- Structure: Teaser, Main Introduction/Poem 1, Poem 1, Introduction/Poem 2, Poem 2, Introduction/Poem 3, Poem 3, etc.
- Use an interp book to read from/reference each poem; memorization can occur, but that is not the goal (introductions are memorized or delivered extemporaneously)

Materials

- Any and all material, with preference to “good literature”
 - Spoken word poetry, YouTube (e.g. Def Jam), Slam Poetry, original poetry, published, etc.

Themes

- Programs may choose any theme; examples often include: philosophy, nature, community, growing up, love, loss, depression, social injustices, death.
- Programs may be humorous or serious in nature

Delivery

- Restricted movement, although performers can use limited gestures, facial, verbal, and vocal expression

Prose

Basic Rules

- Structure: Teaser, Introduction, Rest of piece
- 8 minutes (30 second grace)
- Use an interp book to read from/reference; memorization can occur, but that is not the goal (the introduction is memorized or delivered extemporaneously)

Materials

Materials

- The materials shall be cuttings from published, printed short stories, novels or essays, published electronically or in print. No material may be presented from any work that is identified as a play/ drama, poem, stand- up- comedy routine, sermon or speech.
- More than 50%of the words in the selection must be narration; both dialogue and narration are encouraged

Delivery

- “The responsibility of the speaker is to entertain the audience with the material...; the speaker should suggest the characters, mood, and changes of situation largely through...voice. Characterizations should be confined to the facial expressions, postures, and character placement, but there should be no movement of the entire body.” (OHSSL Handbook)

POI (Program Oral Interp)

Basic Rules

- 10 minutes (30 second grace)
- Structure: Teaser, Introduction, Rest of script
- No props or costumes
- Utilizes manuscript/book, which can be incorporated as a tool

Materials

- Must use at least two of the three literature genres (prose, DI, poetry)
- Genres should be given equal time
- Allowable material:
 - Print publications (includes, novels, short stories, plays, or poetry published in print)
 - Digital/online publications: only allowed from pre-approved online publishing sources for the current school year, per the National Speech and Debate Association rules.
- Not Allowed:
 - Recorded material (DVD, YouTube, etc)
 - Original material published in a high school publication

Delivery

- POI should flow like a story, even though there are multiple components
 - Intro, rising action, climax, conclusion
- Understand your script: who are the characters? What are they like? What makes them realistic? How will an audience connect with them?
- Create an environment: where does your script take place? What are the characters doing in the scene?
- Work together: Practice in front of a mirror so interactions are realistic. Your reactions will be rehearsed, but should not look rehearsed. (Strive for genuine and authentic to the character.)

Public Forum Debate

Basic Rules

- One topic per month, announced on the 15th of the previous month (Sept/Oct share a topic which is released in August, but Nov. topic released on October 15th)
- Times are 4-4-3-4-4-3-2-2-3-2-2 with two minutes prep (speech breakdown below)
- Partnered debate; two people to affirm the resolution, two more to negate it
- Cases are prepared ahead of time (on both sides of the topic), and evidence is highly encouraged

Topics

- Current events, policies, ideas formed as a statement which allows teams to argue for or against it
- Voted on each month by each team registered with the NSDA (ask your coach for more info on how to get involved in your school's voting process)

Structure

- 4-minute case speech: introducing your case, any burdens/definitions for the round (both sides)
 - Burden: conditions that you will hold your opponent to in order for them to “win” the round
- 3-minute cross-examination period for first speakers
 - A time to ask any clarifying questions about intent, wording, or initial reactions to opponents' case
- 4-minute rebuttal speech: time to respond to each of your opponent's arguments
 - Make sure to address each argument, even if the rebuttal is simple, spend at least 30 seconds on each point
 - If time is left at the end, brush up on the most important pieces of your case to reaffirm your control of the round
- 3-minute cross-examination period for second speakers
 - A time to ask questions about the nitty-gritty aspects of the case, and more pressing matters
 - An important time to make opponents explain the specifics, and to question their sources*
 - This is about the VALIDITY of the sources (i.e. if you used Wikipedia or the New York Times, if you used Fox News or The Christian Science Monitor)
 - If opponent doesn't have physical copies of their evidence, this is not the case for immediate dismissal of the point: a valid works cited is also considered acceptable according to the National Speech & Debate Association
- 2-minute summary speeches: “here's what's happened so far”
 - Cover the most important points on both sides, and why your side is winning all of these battles
 - Do not simply regurgitate everything that's happened, but look at the “make a difference” points
 - LAST OPPORTUNITY TO BRING IN NEW EVIDENCE AS SUPPORT
- 3-minute grand cross-examination for all speakers
 - The last opportunity to ask questions about opponents' points and beliefs
 - Manipulative and direct questions can “corner” opponents into admitting faults in case logic
- 2-minute Final Focus speeches to address impacts and voting issues
 - Impacts:
 - Voting issues: the most important pieces of the round

Case Construction

- State your side (i.e. “My partner and I stand in firm affirmation/negation of the resolution...”)
- Restate the resolution in its entirety
- Include any definitions you may need
 - Anything you have to Google OR anything than can be taken out of context
- 2-4 main points (“contentions”) that help support your position on the topic
- Facts, quotes, and statistics from reliable, credible source (MUST HAVE FULL MLA CITATIONS)

AVAILABLE)

Case Framework

- State Side
- State Resolution
- Introduce Definitions
- Set Framework/Burdens
- Contention 1
 - Subpoint A OR just logical argument #1
 - Subpoint B OR just logical argument #2
- Contention 2
 - Subpoint A OR just logical argument #1
 - Subpoint B OR just logical argument #2
- Contention 3
 - Subpoint A OR just logical argument #1
 - Subpoint B OR just logical argument #2
- Restate side (i.e. “For these reasons we urge a strong vote in the affirmation/negation of the resolution”)

Strategies

- Practice, practice, practice: start by writing out speeches to topics; practice with friends/family/stuffed animals/strangers/etc
- Work on time structure (when you should be approaching each point)
- Make clear, concise arguments
- Keep a clean “flow,” or written record of both yours and your opponents’ points
- Use questioning period and prep times in an effective manner
- Be well-read on your topic
- Have extra evidence/examples/quotes outside of your case to use as backup
- Thoroughly cover each of your opponents’ points
- Maintain a calm, collected tone throughout the debate; remain polite at all times to your judge, your audience, and your opponents
- Bring your own method of time keeping

Lincoln Douglas Debate

Basic Rules

- One topic per two months (Sept/Oct, Nov/Dec, Jan/Feb, March/April, Nationals)
- Times are 6-3-7-3-4-6-3 with four minutes prep (speech breakdown below)
- One on one debate
- Cases are prepared ahead of time (on both sides of the topic)

Topics

- Questions of morality and justice
- Discusses how society ought to be

Structure

- 6-minute Aff speech: introducing your case, any burdens/definitions for the round (both sides)
 - Burden: conditions that you will hold your opponent to in order for them to “win” the round
- 3-minute cross-examination
 - Neg asks any clarifying questions about intent, wording, or initial reactions to opponent’s case
- 7-minute Neg constructive/rebuttal speech:
 - Neg presents the case against the resolution
 - Also rebuts Aff’s case (balance time between constructive/rebuttal)
- 3-minute cross-examination
 - Aff asks any clarifying questions about intent, wording, or initial reactions to opponent’s case
- 4-minute Aff rebuttal
 - Refute the negative case and rebuild the affirmative case
- 6-minute Neg rebuttal
 - The last opportunity for Neg to speak
 - Refute the Aff case, rebuild the Neg case, and clearly state why Neg won (“voters”)
- 3-minute Aff rebuttal
 - Address Neg “voters”
 - Clearly state why Aff won

Case Construction

- State your side (i.e. “I stand in firm affirmation/negation of the resolution...”)
- Restate the resolution in its entirety
- Include any definitions you may need
 - Anything you have to Google OR anything that can be taken out of context
- There is no specific structure in LD, but a value-criterion structure is most common
 - Value: the ultimate goal the round is striving for
 - Criterion: mechanism that determines if the value is being achieved
 - A value is how we see the round, so a criterion filters arguments. If we are looking to uphold cat utopia in the round, we’re not looking at arguments about dogs.

Case Framework

- State Side
- State Resolution
- Introduce Definitions
- Set Framework/Burdens
 - Framework
 - Value
 - Criterion
 - Burdens

- Contention 1 (Claim, warrant, impact)
 - Aff: Why we “ought/should” do the resolution or why it is true
 - Neg: Why we ought not or should not do the resolution or why it is false
- Contention 2 (Claim, warrant, impact)
 - Aff: Why we “ought/should” do the resolution or why it is true
 - Neg: Why we ought not or should not do the resolution or why it is false
- Restate side (i.e. “For these reasons we urge a strong vote in the affirmation/negation of the resolution”)

Strategies

- Practice, practice, practice: start by writing out speeches to topics; practice with friends/family/stuffed animals/strangers/etc
- Read up on philosophy; Wikipedia or the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy are great resources
- Work on time structure (when you should be approaching each point)
- Make clear, concise arguments
- Keep a clean “flow,” or written record of both yours and your opponent’s points
- Use questioning period and prep times in an effective manner
- Be well-read on your topic
- Thoroughly cover each of your opponents’ points
- Maintain a calm, collected tone throughout the debate; remain polite at all times to your judge, your audience, and your opponents
- Bring your own method of time keeping

Parliamentary Debate

Basic Rules

- Two speakers on each team.
- Each round has three resolutions; each team strikes, starting with the affirmative, one resolution.
- Teams have 15 minutes to prepare a case upholding their side of the resolution; they only reference materials are each other and a dictionary.

Speaking Times

- 7 minutes, first proposition constructive
- 8 minutes, first opposition constructive
- 8 minutes, second proposition constructive
- 8 minutes, second opposition constructive
- 4 minutes, opposition rebuttal (given by first opposition speaker)
- 5 minutes, proposition rebuttal (give by first proposition speaker)
- No new information may be presented in the rebuttal speeches

Questions

- After the first minute and before the last minute, teams may ask questions during the opposing team's constructive speeches.
- Debaters do not have to yield to questions

Topics

- Topics are generally current events, social ideas, or philosophical in nature. Typically, one is a policy resolution, another is a value resolution, and the third is either policy or value.

Case Construction

- Definitions: What are the key terms that need to be defined for a fair debate? (Does "schools" refer to public schools, private schools, high school, or all of the above?)
- Weighing mechanism/value: Not required, but how should the judge decide the round? How will you prove that your side is correct in the debate?
- Case: 2-4 main points, also known as contentions, that support your position on the topic.
 - How do I think of contentions? Finish the phrase, "this resolution is true *because...*" or, "this resolution is untrue *because...*"
 - Support your contentions with examples, logic, and analysis
- Opposition: the case is slightly shorter, as the first speech will include refutations of the proposition's case.
- Use structure, transition words/phrases (known as roadmapping and signposting) so your opponents and audience know where you are in the debate.

Strategies

- Practice, practice, practice: 15 minutes is a very short time to prep
- Work on time structure (balance your contentions with equal time)
- Make clear, concise arguments
- Keep a clean "flow," or written record of both yours and your opponents' points
- Thoroughly cover each of your opponents' points
- Maintain a calm, collected tone throughout the debate; remain polite at all times to your judge, your audience, and your opponents
- Bring your own method of time keeping (stopwatch, not just a cell phone)

Student Congress (Oregon)

Basic Rules

- Bills and resolutions are debated and voted on by an assembly
- Speeches are three minutes in length
- The author of a bill or resolution has the privilege of opening the debate
- Speeches alternate between affirmative and negative positions on the legislation
- Follows parliamentary procedure to vote, pass legislation

Key Figures

- Chair/Presiding Officer: The chair is responsible for keeping Congress running smoothly and efficiently. She keeps note of how many times a Congressman spoke, who has recently spoken, and responds to voting requests from the assembly.
- Judge/Parliamentarian: The same person at some tournaments (except state), the Parliamentarian rules on questions in the assembly related to parliamentary procedure. The judge scores each speech and the chair.

Key Terms

- Aye/Nay: Voting yes or no on a piece of legislation
- Previous Question: Can we stop debating and vote on this?
- Suspend Rules: Can we change a rule of this Congress? (Usually related to changing order of the docket, increasing speaking time, etc)
- Amendments: Can we change something about this legislation? (Amount of money spent, clarification, etc.)

Topics

- Bills: Bills are specific acts of policy that would be law if enacted
- Resolutions: Resolutions are statements that express an idea (including constitutional amendments)
- Have you ever heard or said the phrase, “there ought to be a law”? Here is your chance to enact a policy or a conviction that is important. Topics include everything from schools, national parks, nuclear policy, foreign policy, and social issues.

Writing Legislation

- Legislation must be specific; what the bill or resolution says it what it does. There is no intent to consider.
- Content can include local, state, or national concerns.
- Utilize creativity: how would you solve a problem with legislation?

Delivery

- Prioritize information: what is the most important idea people are/are not considering about a piece of legislation?
 - Be able to deal with previous refutations concisely;
 - Do not simply restate what people have said before you; bring something new to the debate.
- Think differently: Because of the order of speakers, consider speaking (smartly) on an unpopular side of the bill to maximize speaking opportunities.

National Speech and Debate Association

- The NSDA’s Congressional Debate runs very similar to Oregon Congress, however there are slight difference in speaking and questions. For instance, after the first affirmative and negative speeches, there are two minutes of questioning that follow. Tournaments often state ahead of time which set of rules they will use.

CX Debate

Basic Rules

- Two speakers on each team
- One year-long topic
- Times: 8-3-8-3-8-3-8-3-5-5-5-5 (5 minutes of prep time)
 - Clarify with judge what prep time covers (flashing files, set up, etc)
- Aff proposes a plan under the resolution and advocates for its passage; Neg opposes or counters
 - The Plan does not have to pass in the real world; Aff simply advocates that it should

Speaking Times

- 8 minutes, first affirmative constructive
- 3 minutes, Neg CX of Aff
- 8 minutes, first negative constructive
- 3 minutes, Aff CX of Neg
- 8 minutes, second affirmative constructive
- 3 minutes, Neg CX of Aff
- 8 minutes, second negative constructive
- 3 minutes, Aff CX of Neg
- 5 minutes, first negative rebuttal
- 5 minutes, first affirmative rebuttal
- 5 minutes, second negative rebuttal
- 5 minutes, second affirmative rebuttal

Structure

Aff

Stock Issues (breaking the case down into logical parts)

- Topicality: appropriate definitions, case plan (Does Aff have jurisdiction?)
- Inherency: reality/what causes the status quo (Is there a problem?)
- Harms: problems with the status quo (Where is the problem?)
 - Plan meets needs
- Solvency: what the plan does (How does it fix the problem?)
- Advantages: the significance of inherency or the plan (What's the benefit?)
 - Plan is better than the status quo

Neg

Neg can choose to fight any of the stock issues to win (on-case)

Neg can choose to fight with other responses not directly related to the case (off-case)

- Disadvantages: specific, unique problem to passing the specific plan (What bad thing happens if plan passes, that wouldn't otherwise?)
- Counter-plan: alternative actor, time frame, funding (Is the plan the best option?)
- Topicality: aff does not have jurisdiction (aff cannot do what they say they can)

Case Construction

Cards

- Policy is heavily researched and critical of evidence presented
 - Cards have a tag, cite, and evidence
 - Tag (claim), cite (source), evidence (details that support the claim)

Game Playing

- At the end of the day, is the plan a good or bad idea?
 - Focus on the policy itself first