

"Canadian National Debate Format"
Moderator' Script

(Before you begin, write the exact resolution and the names of all debaters on the blackboard. Check to see that judges are seated in different locations and that all debaters and officials are ready. Consult the debaters for the pronunciation of their names. Ask all persons present to be seated. Proceed.)

This debate will come to order.

The resolution before us today is _____

Representing the Proposition are its First Speaker _____ and the Second Speaker _____ .

Representing the Opposition are its First Speaker _____ and the Second Speaker _____ .

On behalf of the House, I would like to express a sincere welcome to our judges:

_____, _____, _____,
_____, and _____ .

and I, _____ am your Moderator.

Each speaker will deliver an 6 minute constructive speech. The first speaker of each team will also get a 3 minute summary and rebuttal speech. Points of Information will be allowed during the constructive speeches only, but not during the first and last minute of the speeches. I will bang the desk after the first minute, and again with one minute remaining, to signal the time during which Points of Information may be raised. For each speech, fifteen seconds grace will be allowed. After each speech, I will immediately call upon the next debater to begin his or her address.

There will be no Points of Order or Points of Privilege. Heckling is also prohibited. Are there any questions regarding the rules?

(ANSWER ANY THAT ARE RAISED)

I call upon the First Speaker to introduce the Proposition case for six minutes.

(FIRST PROPOSITION'S SPEECH)

I thank the member for his/her remarks. We shall now hear the first speaker for the Opposition.

(FIRST OPPOSITION'S SPEECH)

I thank the member for his/her remarks. I now call upon the second speaker for the Proposition.

(SECOND PROPOSITION'S SPEECH)

I thank the member for his/her remarks. The Second Opposition will now deliver the last speech opposing the case.

(SECOND OPPOSITION'S SPEECH)

I thank the Opposition speaker. At this time, the first speaker for each side will deliver a three minute summary and rebuttal speech. No new information may be introduced during these speeches. We will start with the first opposition speaker.

(FIRST OPPOSITION'S SUMMARY/REBUTTAL)

We will now hear the Proposition's final summary and rebuttal, to be delivered by the First speaker, for three minutes.

(FIRST PROPOSITION'S SUMMARY/REBUTTAL)

I thank the member for concluding the debate. Would the debaters please leave the room while the judges discuss the debate amongst themselves. Each judge will, after no more than ten minutes, complete his/her ballot independently and hand it in to me. At that point, the debaters will return to the room and the head judge will make constructive comments, but will not indicate which team has won the debate.