

most strongly support it, and demonstrating that you have proved your point. To continue the analogy of a guide, you need to tell them what to look out for; nobody likes to be told that the building they passed twenty minutes ago was the highlight of the tour. You shouldn't patronize your audience, but you do need to provide an intellectual map charting how you will get from one point to another. This allows listeners to know where they're going.

Basic Structure

The basic structure of any speech is determined by its aims. Usually, your speech will have more than one goal, so it's important to prioritize your objectives and to organize the speech accordingly. Debate speeches may want to:

- define the motion
- summarize the debate or the points made by one team
- interact with the ideas presented by other speakers
- advance new arguments
- introduce new evidence
- disprove what has been said by other speakers
- support what has been said by other speakers
- extend the debate into new territory

Different speeches will aim to achieve a different balance of these objectives, depending on the speaker's position in the debate and progress of the debate at the time. In some cases, the goal is unique to the speaker; for example, only the First Affirmative speaker needs to define the motion. Others goals, such as interacting with or disproving what other speakers have said, will feature in several speeches.

Whatever your goals, both you and your audience must clearly understand what they are, what points you bring in support of your objective, and that you have met those goals. Consequently, your speech should have three parts:

1. The *introduction* establishes your goals. It explains what you're going to say and why it's important.