

highlighting them. By the end of the first minute, anyone listening should be able to see the framework of what is to come.

The final minute of your speech should be a reflection of your introduction. In your conclusion, demonstrate that you have achieved the goals you set out at the beginning of your speech. Mention all your arguments, highlighting how they work together to prove your case. Your concluding remarks should convince the adjudicator that the perspective you set out in your introduction is the correct one.

The Body of the Speech

In between the introduction and conclusion comes the main body of your speech. In this section, you present the arguments in support of your case and the evidence buttressing those arguments. The body of any debate speech should include the following:

1. *Reference to your teammate(s)*. This can be very brief and is often incorporated in the introduction or conclusion but can happen anywhere in the speech. Simply mention your partner or teammates; there's no need to rehearse their arguments in detail. You do this to indicate to your audience that you understand your place in the debate and can demonstrate how the arguments you're putting forward fit into your side's case.

In a two-person team such a reference might be:

I will demonstrate the economic need for this policy in the current climate and my partner, Ms Smith, will examine how it will likely have a wider social impact beyond this one industry.

Or, from a concluding or reply speaker on a three-person team:

We have heard from Ms Jones a compelling case for the immediate economic benefits of this approach and, as has been demonstrated by Ms Smith, those benefits will have a wider social impact; I should like to draw those themes together and look at how they have dominated this evening's debate.

It's that simple, no need for masses of adjectival praise; just set the scene for the adjudicator and let her know that you are all singing in harmony.

2. *Rebuttal*. With the exception of the First Affirmative, everyone should respond to the other side's arguments as well as reference their own. Doing so not only shows that you are actually listening to what is being said but also enables you to demonstrate that your ideas are better than your opponents' by comparing and contrasting the two. You don't need to address everything they've said and certainly don't waste your