
EXERCISE

Discuss the issue of wearing school uniforms in groups of six.

1. Divide into two teams of three, one Affirmative and one Negative. Develop some arguments within these teams and take notes—but do not write a complete script for your speech.
2. Ask a student from another group to act as an adjudicator. Debate the issue. For the purposes of this exercise, all speeches should be three minutes in length with no Points of Information or cross-examination allowed. Use your notes, but allow space to take further notes on what other speakers have said and mention their points during your speech.

Make sure your speech has a clear introduction, body, and conclusion. Don't worry if you don't speak for the full 3 minutes, but, if you are still speaking after about 3 minutes and 20 seconds, the adjudicator should ask you to stop.

3. After your debate, one member of your group should act as the adjudicator for the group that supplied yours.
 4. If there's time, merge the two groups and ask each person how she felt about her speech.
 - Did she feel more nervous before she had to speak or during her speech?
 - Did she cover everything she planned to say?
 - Did she think she responded well to the points other speakers had made?
 - Could she have provided a clearer roadmap for her speech?
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CHAPTER CHECKLIST

- To be successful, a speech must have a clear structure.
 - A speech should include three components: introduction, body, and conclusion.
 - Some goals of a speech are common to all speakers and others are specific to one or two.
 - Speakers are trying to prove or disprove a particular case rather than giving a general overview of an issue.
 - A clear structure not only provides a roadmap for the adjudicator but can also prove useful in forcing a debater to clarify her thoughts.
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