

Name:	Karl Popper (KP)
Number of teams:	2 (Affirmative; Negative)
Number of speakers:	6
Length of debate:	44 minutes of speaking time plus in-debate preparation time, which varies between countries
Length of speeches:	Constructive speeches: 6 minutes; Rebuttal speeches: 5 minutes; Cross-examination: 3 minutes
Topics:	Vary; announced usually a month in advance. Impromptu debates are also common, especially in the final stages of tournaments.
Preparation:	Significant preparation and research before debate; no research or assistance permitted once the debate has begun. Prep time for impromptu debates: 60 minutes.
Key features:	Emphasis on debate as an educational tool; emphasis on teamwork; use of cross-examination
Unique terminology:	Refutation—Responses to the speeches of the other team are termed “rebuttal” in other formats but are known as “refutation” in KP to distinguish them from Rebuttal—In Karl Popper format, “rebuttal” refers specifically to the second speakers’ efforts to address the arguments of the first speakers. This is dealt with in detail in the overview section below.
Points of Information:	No
Cross-examination:	Yes
Reply speeches:	No

10 parts. Six are speeches; the remaining four are periods of cross-examination. The first two speeches are constructive speeches in which the debaters present the basic arguments about the resolution as well as all of their reasons for supporting or opposing it. The remaining speeches, the rebuttals, are devoted to challenging and defending arguments. Debaters present objections to their opponents’ arguments and defend their own. In the rebuttal speeches, debaters are not allowed to introduce completely new arguments in support of their position. Each of the first four speeches is followed by a period of