

- Final speakers summarize their case, highlight their side's key arguments, and explain why, in light of what has gone on during the debate, their side has won. They talk the adjudicator through the mental landscape that has been created, pointing out aspects that may have been missed at first glance or adding final pieces of detail to bring out the full force of the argument as a whole.

Each speaker has a specific function, yet, to win a debate, each member of a team must work with her teammates to develop the same overall narrative and demonstrate that their analysis of the problem (and their proposed solution) is the correct one. In debates where the speakers see their roles only as tackling one particular area or checking off the box marked "role fulfilled," the adjudicator will not gain a clear idea of the overall theme behind their team's arguments and why that should be considered more persuasive than other interpretations of a given situation.

## Viewing the Debate from the Outside

To win in debate, you and your teammates should endeavor to view the debate from the perspective of the judge, not a debater. The debater views the debate from the standpoint of her speech. She hears what she intended to say and sees everything else as a commentary on it. The adjudicator, on the other hand, views the debate as a whole. From her perspective, the balance of the debate moves back and forth between the teams with good and bad points made on both sides. In a good debate, all speakers will introduce and develop some good arguments and interesting material and give the debate a life of its own. From this mass of interesting data and, hopefully, salient points, the adjudicator must determine which team has been most persuasive. In practice, viewing the debate from the judge's perspective requires focusing on three elements: working with your teammates to present your case, interacting with the opposition to encourage clash, and, for individual speakers, offering the best speech in the debate.

## Teamwork

Debate is a team activity. This can't be emphasized strongly enough. The only way you can win a debate is by working closely with your teammates to present a clear, persuasive case. You can see the importance of teamwork clearly if you view a team's case as an essay or speech. A well-structured essay has several distinct parts: an introduction, a main body, and a conclusion. Yet, the essay is presented as one, seamless whole, rather