

NORM: normative/normatively

P: Plan

Q: Question

QoD: Quality of debate

QoL: Quality of life

R: Rebuttal

S: Substantive

Small star or circled argument: Good point made by debater

Soc: Society

SQ: Status Quo

Std: standard

Three dots in upside down triangle: therefore

WLD: Western Liberal Democracies

- *Use symbols.* Arrows, question marks, underlining and circling, stars, floating hearts. For example:

↑ : increased or greater than or more of

↓ : decreased or less than or less of

It doesn't really matter what you use, but a downwards arrow is a lot quicker to jot down than writing out "would probably get worse." It's also useful to use arrows and lines to link different points and arguments as the debate progresses.

- *Use full sentences for direct quotations.* This is the only situation in which recording full sentences is helpful. Sometimes your opponent will make a statement that undermines his case or your teammate compellingly proves some aspect of yours. It's useful to have one or two of these instances written down verbatim so you can include them in your speech. A quotation from an earlier opposition speaker can also make for a killer POI or cross-examination question.
- *Write what is not said.* Note the questions raised by what opposing speakers *don't* say. What do they need to say? If the first speaker says they will address three arguments, jot those down and check them off as they're addressed. If they have missed one, circle