

PARLIAMENTARY STYLE DEBATING - SPEAKER'S SCRIPT

(Two person team) Known as the Clerk of the House & The Speaker

Before you begin, you should write the exact resolution and the names of debaters in their speaking order on a blackboard clearly visible to all judges. Then have all debaters, officials and spectators sit down, and announce clearly and firmly:

The House will come to order. I am pleased to welcome you all to this _____ round of _____.

The topic under debate today is “_____”

On my right, representing the Government, are:

The Prime Minister: _____ and

The Second Government Speaker: _____

Speaking for Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition will be:

It's First Speaker _____ and

The Leader of the Opposition: _____

On behalf of the House, I extend a special welcome to our Judges: _____, _____, and _____

The Clerk of the House is _____, and I, _____, am your Speaker.

Each debater will have 8 minutes to deliver his/her remarks: The Prime Minister's time will be divided between a 5 minute opening speech and a 3 minute official rebuttal. The Clerk of the House will raise his/her right arm when a debater has one minute left to speak and will stand when the time has elapsed.

As Speaker, I will entertain Points of Order Personal Privilege. Heckling and Formal Questions will also be permitted, but only by competing debaters, and Judges will penalize any debater who interrupts another thoughtlessly or excessively or who lowers the level of debate. My decisions are final and cannot be appealed but the Judges will make allowances for the victims of my mistakes. Are there any questions regarding the Rules?

Pause for Questions. Once any raised have been answered, or if there are none, say:

I call upon the Prime Minister to introduce the Bill, define the terms, and outline the Government case. *After the Prime Minister's Speech, say:* I thank the Prime Minister for his/her remarks and remind the judges that

PARLIAMENTARY STYLE DEBATING - SPEAKER'S SCRIPT

they should not score any debater until they have heard all the speeches. We shall now hear the first speaker for the

Opposition. If the Opposition intends to contest the Government definitions or to introduce a counter-plan, it must do so during this address.

After the First Opposition Speech, say: Thank you for your remarks. I now call upon the second Government speaker to deliver his/her speech.

After the Second Government Speech, say: Thank you. The Leader of the Opposition will now deliver the last speech opposing the Bill. It is her/his responsibility to complete the attack on the Government case and to defend and summarize the position of the Opposition. I remind the leader of the opposition that the last 3 minutes of this speech constitutes the Opposition rebuttal. During this (3) minute speech, although new evidence may be introduced, no new contentions may be introduced.

After the Official Leader of the Opposition's speech, say: I thank the Leader of the Opposition, and now call upon the Prime Minister to present the government's official rebuttal. During this 3 minute speech, although new evidence may be introduced no new contentions may be introduced.

After the Government's official rebuttal, say: Would the judges please complete their scoring and hand their score sheets in." (After all ballots are collected, **announce the winning team if you were told to do so!**)

(If time allows, say: Would the judges please deliver their critiques?)

Finally, say: On behalf of the House, I thank the Judges and the Clerk for their assistance; I congratulate all debaters on their performances; and I thank the members of the Gallery for their attentiveness. Since this debate is now concluded and there is no other business on the Order Paper, the House stands adjourned.