

Getting Started in Cross-Examination Debate

For beginners

**CX debate made user-friendly.
Learn CX debate format, speaker responsibilities
and basic terminology.**

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BEFORE WE GET STARTED

Remember to register your attendance and complete session evaluations.

Session numbers are in your program.



Attendance



Online Handouts



Session Evaluations

Order of the Speeches in the round

Constructive Speeches

- 1AC: 8 Minutes
Cross-Examined by 2NC: 3 Minutes
- 1NC: 8 Minutes
Cross-Examined by 1AC: 3 Minutes
- 2AC: 8 Minutes
Cross-Examined by 1NC: 3 Minutes
- 2NC: 8 Minutes
Cross-Examined by 2AC: 3 Minutes

Rebuttal Speeches

- 1NR: 5 Minutes
- 1AR: 5 Minutes
- 2NR: 5 Minutes
- 2AR: 5 Minutes

Speech Cheat Sheet

Speech Order and Responsibilities

CONSTRUCTIVE SPEECHES

- 1AC – Read the case and plan.
- CX – 2NC asks the questions
- 1NC – Present the disadvantage shells first, if time permits, case arguments
- CX – 1AC asks the questions
- 2AC – Answer ALL negative arguments. Rebuild and strengthen the case.
Point out arguments that the negative has not attacked.
- CX – 1NC asks the questions
- 2NC – Present any additional case arguments not covered by 1NC.
Remember to take only part of the negative arguments – leave some for the 1NR speech

REBUTTAL SPEECHES

- 1NR – Present all other negative arguments not covered in the 2NC. Do not present
the same arguments as your partner. Decide ahead of time who will cover which arguments.
 - 1AR – Answer ALL of the negative arguments from both the 2NC and the 1NR.
Any dropped argument could mean a negative victory.
 - 2NR – Pick a few arguments that you think the negative side is winning and concentrate
on those. Tell the judge exactly why to vote for you. Tell the judge why the negative
arguments outweigh the arguments of the affirmative
 - 2AR – Respond to negative arguments. Point out any arguments that have been dropped
by the negative team. Tell the judge why you win. Tell the judge why the affirmative
arguments outweigh the negative arguments.
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Each **Team gets 8 minutes prep** time total in the round.

Debate Etiquette you should follow:

1. Look at the judge, never your opponent during CX
2. Professional dress should be worn during debate rounds.
3. Don't make arguments in CX, just ask questions
4. Don't be afraid to ask about anything you don't understand
5. Use all of your time in your speeches - it's free prep time for your partner during the round.



Each Cross Examination Debate round last **1 ½ hours**

CX Debate is a **TEAM of 2 people**

Affirmative team and the Negative Team

AC and NC = **Affirmative Constructive & Negative Constructive**

Rebuttal Speeches are for presenting arguments already presented with **new evidence** to support the affirmative or negative stand. This is also when you spend your time telling the judge why you should win the debate.

The 1AC reads the Affirmative case. This is pre-written speech.

How do you win in CX Debate?

AFFIRMATIVE - This team **AFFIRMS** the Resolution

BURDEN OF PROOF -In order to affirm the Resolution, the Aff team will present a plan explaining how they propose to do what the Resolution calls for. This is called **THE AFF CASE**.

NEGATIVE -This team **NEGATES** the Resolution.

BURDEN OF REFUTATION -the Neg team will present reasons why the Aff plan will not work and disadvantages.



CROSS-EXAMINATION DEBATE BALLOT

Conference: _____ Date: _____ Judge: _____ Room: _____ Round: _____
 Affirmative Team # _____ Negative Team # _____

Assign speaker points to each debater ranging from 20-30 points. Rank each debater from 1 to 4 in order of excellence (1 for best, 2 for next best, 3 and 4). Delivery that interferes with effective communication should be penalized.

Speaker Criteria

Organization • Evidence • Analysis • Refutation • Oral Style • Speed of Delivery

The best ballots teach and encourage the student. Please offer areas of improvement and positive attributes.

AFFIRMATIVE TEAM				NEGATIVE TEAM			
		Points (20-30)	Rank (1-4)			Points (20-30)	Rank (1-4)
1st Speaker	_____	_____	_____	1st Speaker	_____	_____	_____
	<i>(first) (last)</i>				<i>(first) (last)</i>		
2nd Speaker	_____	_____	_____	2nd Speaker	_____	_____	_____
	<i>(first) (last)</i>				<i>(first) (last)</i>		

The significant clash(es)/issue(s) used as the basis for my decision were:

In my judgment, the _____ team won the debate.
(Affirmative or Negative)

Low point win? Yes No
(circle one)

Signature of Judge

Affiliation

2022-23 UIL CX Resolution

The United States Federal Government Should Substantially Increase Its Security Cooperation With The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) In One Or More Of The Following Areas: Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security, and Biotechnology.

STOCK ISSUES IN CX DEBATE:

All **five of the stock issues** must be present in every AFFIRMATIVE CASE .

SIGNIFICANCE

The Affirmative must prove that a significant problem is taking place in the current system , which is called **THE STATUS QUO**.

Two types :

QUANTITATIVE SIGNIFICANCE: this proves that the problem is a big deal using numbers and statistics

QUALITATIVE SIGNIFICANCE: this proves that the problem is a big deal because the impacts are horrible

Harms:

Harms are the **bad** things that are happening in the **STATUS QUO** •

These can range from small scale harms to large harms like nuclear war and human extinction.

NOTE: Whatever you use in the Affirmative case, you must provide evidence proving that the harms are either **quantitatively or qualitatively** significant.

A single piece of evidence is called a **CARD**.

Affirmative team must be able to **SOLVE or FIX every harm they presented** in their case. You have to **outline what is wrong** and **how they propose to fix the problem**.

Inherency:

Inherency is where you prove **WHY the harms are not currently being solved (stopped) in the status quo.**

Inherency is divided into **three types**, although many affirmatives will use a combination of the three in their cases. – **Structural**: Is there a policy or law currently in place which stops the status quo from solving for the harms on its own or The affirmative case must fix or work around this law in order to solve for the harms in the status quo.

Attitudinal: There is an attitude or opinion that prevents the harms from being solved. Affirmative team reserves the right to **FIAT**, this type of inherency is easy to solve within the Affirmative case. The Affirmative team has the right to say that the plan WILL pass through Congress and the President. This way, the debate will deal more with the **aftermath of the plan** as opposed to whether or not the plan can be passed. **NOTE**: the Affirmative team does not have to try to change the opinions in their Inherency because the plan will pass anyway, once the judge votes Affirmative.

Existential: **NOTE**: This is the weakest type of Inherency. The Negative will argue that the reason nothing is being done is because the **harms are outweighed by other more serious harms in the status quo.**

Topicality

There are **four main parts to a topicality argument**: definition, violation, standards, and voters.

Definition- this is where you define a word in the resolution. Example: if the resolution has the word substantial in it, then you have to have to provide a definition for substantial.

Violation- this is where the Neg explain how the Aff doesn't meet the definition provided.

TOPICALITY:

COMMONLY USED STANDARDS

- Fair Limits: the definition is better because it fairly limits both teams to an acceptable amount of ground.
- Bright Line: Definition is better because it draws a clear distinction between what is topical and what is not, whereas the Aff definition is vague.
- Framers Intent: Definition is better because it more accurately represents what the framers of the resolution intended.
- Education: Definition is better because it allows both sides to gain a greater education about the issues at hand.
- Ground: The negative team's interpretation of the resolution restricts the number of cases that fall within the topic; therefore, the affirmative team cannot run any case they choose. By doing this, you, as the judge, increase the educational value of the debate round.

COMMONLY USED VOTERS

- **Jurisdiction**- Judges cannot vote for non-topical cases because these are outside of their jurisdiction. If we prove non-topicality, then the Aff plan will fall.
- **Prima Facie burden**- Topicality is part of the Aff's prima facie burden. By presenting a non-topical case, the Aff has not met its responsibility in the round.
- **Education**- We are here to learn as much as possible about the topic at hand. Non-topical cases decrease the amount of education we can gain and should be rejected.

SOLVENCY

(Most negative teams will attack the **case's solvency**.)

Use lots of evidence cards. The evidence must say that the specific Aff plan is what will solve the harms, the author(s) of that evidence will be known as the PLAN , the Affirmative proves that the plan they propose will solve / fix / stop the harms they claim.

ADVOCATE

The plan **advocate is an expert** who believes that the Affirmative plan will solve the harms. If this evidence is generic, then the Negative can claim that it does not necessarily include the Affirmative case.

Sources To Use

Open Evidence Project (Free)

Debate Guru (Free)

DebateUs (subscription required)

Exempt Genie (subscription required)

English Speaking Union (subscription required)



QUESTIONS YOU MIGHT HAVE:

Will you be affirmative or negative ? In some debate rounds, you will be the affirmative, and in other rounds you will be the negative. You need to be prepared for both sides of the debate.

If I learn all this information will I be able to debate this year ? Yes, for the most part, the process doesn't change, the topic does each year.

Do other people watch you debate? Yes, all debate rounds are public.

Can you use a computer during the debate rounds? Yes, also this year we have a open internet policy. Make sure you have a flash drive so you can flash over a copy of your case & plan, plus any called evidence.

