

Chairperson's Duties



This is just a guide for chairpersons – you don't have to follow this speech to the letter!

Welcome everyone, to today's Debate between (proposing school name and town or village) and (opposing school name and town or village).

And many thanks to name of the host school or venue for hosting this debate.

By exploring the issues we're debating today we hope that you as young people will learn more about each other, about our environment, and about our place in the world.

As you know, a debate is much like a conversation or an argument between two or more people with opposing views. I urge you all to listen carefully and to pay attention to what both teams have to say. Please do not interrupt or try to distract the debaters.

And now, to begin today's debate I call on the first speaker of the proposition
student's name from *school name*.....

Thank you. Now I call on the first speaker of the opposition from school name.

Thank you. Now I call on the second speaker from the proposition.

Thank you. Now I call on the second speaker from the opposition.

Thank you. Now I call on the third speaker from the proposition.

Thank you. Now I call on the third speaker from the opposition

Thank you. Now I call on again, the **captain of the opposition**.

Thank you. **Finally**, I call on the **captain of the proposition**.

Now the adjudicators will leave the room to tot up their marks and we will open the discussion to the floor.

Ask if anyone has any comments or questions for either team. All these comments and questions should be addressed to you, the chair. Please encourage audience members to offer comments or ask questions while the adjudicators are away. Respect for both teams is to be maintained at all times so any negative or unfair comments should not be tolerated and should be dealt with immediately.

Remember – give both teams equal time to answer questions or comments.