



Concern Debates Chairperson Speech

- Ladies and Gentlemen... Welcome to this evening's debate between (*insert school name proposition*) and (*insert school name opposition*)

- My name is _____ and I am your chairperson for tonight's debate. Since the Concern Worldwide Debates Programme began in 1984 over 40,000 students have wrestled with issues ranging from Sustainable Development and Climate Change, to Terrorism, extreme poverty and the scourge of HIV and AIDS. We hope that by your participation in the debates, that you as audience members and debaters will become active citizens and agents of change, seeking justice and human rights for all. Concern Worldwide would like to thank the adjudicators, teachers and teams for making this debate possible.

- Motion (Read aloud the motion) The motion before the house this evening is that:

- Teams (Introduce the speakers individually) on the proposition (*insert school name*)

(list student names for proposition)
i _____ ii _____ iii _____
iv _____

- Teams (Introduce the speakers individually) on the opposition (*insert school name*)

(list student names for proposition)
i _____ ii _____ iii _____
iv _____

- The time keeper is _____

- (*Rules- Briefly run through the following*) - Each participant speaks for 4 minutes and 30 seconds. The bell is sounded at 3 minutes and again at 4 minutes 15 seconds, at which time the speaker has 15 seconds to finish- up. Anyone speaking for longer than 4 and a half minutes will incur a time penalty. I will now ask the timekeeper to sound the bell (so that you know what to listen out for)! Heckling and sarcastic remarks are out of place and will be penalised by the adjudicators. Personalized, individual remarks are not tolerated and both teams are asked to refrain from using offensive language when challenging an argument. Offensive or hurtful speech is not tolerated by the Concern Debates programme and goes against the ethos of the competition. As we have timekeepers in place, we ask that phones and are not used.

- *Make sure to pause in between inviting speakers to speak*



- I will now call on the Captain of the proposition (*insert student name*) _____ to open this evening's debate.
- Call on the captain of the opposition: speaker's name (*insert student name*)

- Call on the second speaker for the proposition: (*insert student name*)

- Call on the second speaker for the opposition: (*insert student name*)

- Call on the third speaker for the proposition: (*insert student name*)

- Call on the third speaker for the opposition: (*insert student name*)

- Call on the fourth speaker for the proposition: (*insert student name*)

- Call on the fourth speaker for the opposition: (*insert student name*)

- **Call on the Captain of Opposition to sum up:** (*insert student name*)

- **Call on the Captain of Proposition to sum up:** (*insert student name*)

- (*close the debate*) I would like to thank both teams for their participation here today. We ask that the proposition teacher upload the debate to the online Concern Debates platform. A Concern Debates Adjudicator will mark the debate retrospectively. Results and feedback will be with both schools in 72 hours.