

N. S. D. S.
Impromptu

CROSS-EXAMINATION MODERATOR'S SCRIPT

Two Person Teams
Cambridge Rebuttal

I call this debate to order. I am pleased to welcome you all to this ___ round of the 20___ Provincial Impromptu Debating Workshop. The question before us today is “_____?”

Seated on my right are the affirmative debaters, namely: _____ To my left, and supporting the negative side, are:
Their first speaker: _____ Its first speaker: _____
and _____ and _____
Their second debater: _____. Its second debater: _____.

The Judges for this debate are _____, _____ and _____.
Our Timekeeper is _____ and I, _____, am your Moderator.

Each debater will deliver a ___-minute constructive speech, after which he or she will be questioned for up to ___ minutes by an opponent. Each debater will cross-examine an opponent for up to ___ minutes and have ___ minutes rebuttal-defence-summary time. If a question has been asked before the time limit expires, a short answer may be given. Cross-examination commences immediately after a constructive speech has ended: the examiner will not be re-introduced before questioning begins.

Would the Timekeeper please explain the system for signaling time remaining to debaters.

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(DURING THE FIRST ROUND ONLY, SAY:) To review the general rules of debating briefly:

(READ THE SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL RULES OF DEBATE FOR IMPROMPTU DEBATES.)

During cross-examination, debaters should treat one another with dignity as the Judges will penalize debaters guilty of rudeness, flippancy, brow-beating or any attempt to belittle another debater. While cross-examining, debaters should ask fair questions on pertinent subjects, though these need not arise out of the preceding speech. Examiners will be penalized for arguing with witnesses or making speeches instead of asking questions. They are required to give witnesses a reasonable opportunity to answer questions, though they may ask me to cut short witnesses who stall or answer at unreasonable length. While being cross-examined, debaters shall give direct, honest answers. They must not evade questions put to them but they may impose reasonable qualifications on their answers. The only question they can ask is for clarification of a confusing query and they may not refuse to answer a question, even if it appears unfair or irrelevant. If an answer to a question is not pertinent, however, I may direct the witness to answer properly. I will not entertain any objections other than those noted above. No heckling or other interjections are in order but after all speeches have concluded, I will give both teams an opportunity to point out misquotations and misrepresentations and violations of rules by their opponents. Are there any questions regarding the Rules?

• (ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT ARE RAISED.)

I call upon the **first affirmative** debater to deliver his/her constructive speech, including all definitions and any Plan, then be **cross-examined by** the **second negative** speaker. No Plan is required of the affirmative, but if one is introduced, it must be completely described during this speech.

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Thank you. I now call upon the **first negative** debater to present his/her main address, challenging any definitions in issue [and fully describing any Counter-Plan], then be **cross-examined by the first affirmative** member.

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Thank you. I now call upon the **second affirmative** debater to render his/her constructive remarks, then be **cross-examined by the first negative** speaker.

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Thank you. I now call upon the **second negative** debater to deliver his/her main speech, then be **cross-examined by the second affirmative** member.

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Thank you. We shall now hear a ___-minute speech by each debater. The functions of rebuttal, defence and summarization may be handled by each speaker or they may be divided between the team members. I call upon the **first debater from each team, beginning with the negative.**

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Thank you. Next I call upon the **second debater from each side**, again **commencing with the negative.** The affirmative debater may introduce no new constructive arguments or evidence at this time.

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Has any debater any complaints of rule violations or misquoting or misrepresenting of his or her remarks by his or her opponents? • *(IF ANY COMPLAINTS ARE RAISED, ASK DEBATERS TO BE SPECIFIC AND GIVE A CRITICIZED DEBATER A BRIEF OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND TO THEM, BUT DO NOT RULE ON THE VALIDITY OF ANY OF THE COMPLAINTS.)*

Thank you. Would the Judges please complete their scoring (*AFTER THE SECOND ROUND SAY:* of both debates and turn their Score Sheets in to the Timekeeper). Judges should not confer with one another until after they have scored the debate.

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(IF THERE IS TIME FOR CRITIQUES, SAY: Would the Judges please deliver their critiques in a constructive, encouraging manner. I remind the judges that they should not reveal any debater's scores or the winning team.)

(AFTER ALL JUDGES HAVE DELIVERED THEIR CRITIQUES, SAY:) On behalf of the debating organization, I thank the Judges and the Timekeeper for their assistance; I congratulate all of the debaters on their performances; and I hope that all spectators enjoyed the event. Would the debaters please report to the Tournament Director for their next assignments; please be quiet in the halls, since other debates may still be in progress. I declare this debate officially concluded.