

PUBLIC FORM (PF) DEBATE



PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE (PF)

- 2 on 2 intense debate, approx. 50% eye contact, & heavily researched
- 2 minute and 1min. 30sec. Arguments (4)
 - Prepared case/argument
 - Create multiple CWDI arguments to be switched into the case as needed
 - Rebuttal, Summary, and Final Focus (**script the ballot for the judge**) are all prepared in round from “flow”.
 - Flow the entire debate (all arguments)
- **Cross-fire** questioning for both sides affirmative & negative. **Prep. Time Included.**
- Newsworthy, current topics:
 - Resolved: *The United States federal government should forgive all federal student loan debt.*

“Public Forum Debate - a form of competitive debate which centers on current events and relies on both logic and evidence to construct arguments.”



Arguments

**Basic
Argumentation
Or
Identification:**

- Claim
- Warrant
- Data
- Impact



**Simple
Terminology
Or
Writing Your Own:**

- Name it (Reason)
- Explain it (This is important because...)
- Prove it (Cited Evidence)
- Conclude it (Why it matters)

	ARGUMENT:	TIME:	PURPOSE:
Pre-Prepared	AFF 1 st Speaker - CASE (Constructive Argument)	2min.	-Arguments advocating for one side of the topic -Prepared before the debate -2-3 main contentions (reasons or claims), -Complete arguments include a claim, data, warrant, and impact (CDWI)
Pre-Prepared	NEG 1 st Speaker – CASE (Constructive Argument)	2min.	-Arguments advocating for one side of the topic -Prepared before the debate -2-3 main contentions (reasons or claims), -Complete arguments include a claim, data, warrant, and impact (CDWI)
	Questioning: 1 st Speakers Crossfire	1min. 30sec.	1 st Speakers from both teams alternate asking and answering questions about their cases.
	Prep. Time	2min.	Teams work with their partners to prepare rebuttals.
Written during the round	AFF 2 nd Speaker - REBUTTAL (Counterargument and Blocks for opponent's case)	2min.	Refute the opposing team's case. -Discredit sources & evidence -Show your point(s) have greater impact -Turn or twist your opponent's argument to support your case
Written during the round	NEG 2 nd Speaker - REBUTTAL (Counterargument and Blocks for opponent's case)	2min.	Refute the opposing team's case. -Discredit sources & evidence -Show your point(s) have greater impact -Turn or twist your opponent's argument to support your case
	Questioning: 2 nd Speakers Crossfire	1min. 30sec.	2 nd Speakers from both teams alternate asking and answering questions about their cases and rebuttals.
Written during the round	AFF 1 st Speaker - SUMMARY (Overview of your team's points that were not blocked)	1min. 30sec.	-Summarize your team's contentions that have not been refuted or block by your opponents -Carry through your points that the judge should use to weigh the decision -Link chain how/why your argument has a greater impact - New evidence, but not new arguments may be presented
Written during the round	NEG 1 st Speaker - SUMMARY (Overview of your team's points that were not blocked)	1min. 30sec.	-Summarize your team's contentions that have not been refuted or block by your opponents -Carry through your points that the judge should use to weigh the decision -Link chain how/why your argument has a greater impact - New evidence, but not new arguments may be presented

	Questioning: Grand Crossfire with All Speakers	1min. 30sec.	All four debaters ask and answer questions about their team's argument.
	Prep. Time	1min.	Teams work with their partners to prepare final focus arguments.
Written during the round	AFF 2 nd Speaker – FINAL FOCUS (Tell the judge why your team won the debate)	1min. 30sec.	Tell the judge why he/she should vote for your team: -Choose the most important argument you are winning, and summarize the analysis and evidence that make it so important. -Turn a major argument from your opponent into the winning analysis and evidence of one of your important arguments; this technique clinches two arguments. -Answer the most important argument you may be losing by summarizing the analysis and evidence that you believe takes out the opponent's argument. -Choose an argument that you believe the community judge will most likely vote on. -Expose a major inconsistency made by your opponent—two arguments that contradict each other—at least one of which the opponent is focusing on to win the debate.
Written during the round	NEG 2 nd Speaker – FINAL FOCUS (Tell the judge why your team won the debate)	1min. 30sec.	Tell the judge why he/she should vote for your team: -Choose the most important argument you are winning, and summarize the analysis and evidence that make it so important. -Turn a major argument from your opponent into the winning analysis and evidence of one of your important arguments; this technique clinches two arguments. -Answer the most important argument you may be losing by summarizing the analysis and evidence that you believe takes out the opponent's argument. -Choose an argument that you believe the community judge will most likely vote on. -Expose a major inconsistency made by your opponent—two arguments that contradict each other—at least one of which the opponent is focusing on to win the debate.

Write Your Own:

- **Claim:** Dogs make better pets than cats.
- **Warrant:** This is important because...
- **Data:**
- **Impact:**



4 Arguments in a Round

I. The Case: (1st speaker) 2min.

- Well-constructed
- Persuasive

II. Rebuttal: (2nd speaker) 2min.

- Needs to cover all of the opponent's critical points (contentions or claims)
- Refute each point with cited evidence

III. Summary: (1st speaker) 1min. 30sec.

- Needs to effectively crystallize the round and zero-in on the most important points
- Point out your opponent's claims that you blocked which the judge should lend no weight to

IV. Final Focus: (2nd speaker) 1min. 30sec.

- Drive home your victory in the mind of the judge
- Script the ballot for the judge



FLOW

CASE: Constructive Argument

1st Speakers

- Pre-written
- 2min.
- Prepare both sides (Aff Case and Neg Case)
- Arguments (advocating for one side of the topic)
 - Complete arguments include a claim, data, warrant, and impact (CDWI)
 - 2-3 main contentions (reasons or claims)
 - Includes cited evidence



REBUTTAL: Counterargument and Blocks for opponent's case

2nd Speakers

- Written during the round from flow notes (not pre-prepared)
- 2min.
- Refute the opposing team's case.
 - Discredit sources & evidence
 - Turn or twist your opponent's argument to support your case
- Show your point(s) have greater impact



SUMMARY: Overview of your team's points that were not blocked

1st Speakers

- Written during the round from flow notes (not pre-prepared)
- 1min. 30sec.
- Summarize your team's contentions that have not been refuted or block by your opponents
- Carry through your points that the judge should use to weigh the decision
- Link chain how/why your argument has a greater impact
- New evidence, but not new arguments may be presented



FINAL FOCUS: Tell the judge why your team won the debate

2nd Speakers



- Written during the round from flow notes (not pre-prepared)
- 1min. 30sec.
- Tell the judge why he/she should vote for your team:
 - Choose the most important argument you are winning, and summarize the analysis and evidence that make it so important.
 - Turn a major argument from your opponent into the winning analysis and evidence of one of your important arguments; this technique clinches two arguments.
 - Answer the most important argument you may be losing by summarizing the analysis and evidence that you believe takes out the opponent's argument.
 - Choose an argument that you believe the community judge will most likely vote on.
 - Expose a major inconsistency made by your opponent—two arguments that contradict each other—at least one of which the opponent is focusing on to win the debate.

Sample Case Format Outline (CWDI)

- I. Introduction (do not state your name or school)
 - Thesis and Resolution
 - Definitions
 - Evaluation Mechanism
 - State Side of Debate (Aff/Neg or Pro/Con)
- II. Contention One
 - **Claim:** What is the Contention/Main Argument? What is your point?
 - **Warrant:** Logic and Reasoning linking Claim and Data. Why it matters?
 - **Data:** Evidence that Supports the Claim
 - **Impact:** Why it is Important in the round and to the judge? Who cares?
- III. Contention Two & Three (same format as contention one)
- IV. Conclusion
 - Summarize Contentions and Thesis
 - Restate Side of Debate and Why it Matters

Simple Example:

- **Claim:** Girls are smarter than boys.
- **Warrant:** This is important because the SAT is a standardized Test that demonstrates intelligence.
- **Data:** Girls score higher on the SAT.
- **Impact:** We need to hire more girls as doctors, lawyers, and politicians.

Practice Creating Link Chain:

Resolved: The United States should increase the federal minimum wage.

➤ **Claim:**

➤ **Warrant: This is important because...**

➤ **Why? If this happens, then what will happen?**

Practice with Resolves:

- “The U.S. should increase the minimum wage.”
- “In the United States, the benefits of increasing organic agriculture outweigh the harms.”
- “The U.S. should ban cell phones in all K-12 schools.”
- “The National Security Agency should end its surveillance of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents.”
- **Claim:**
- **Warrant:**
- **Data:**
- **Impact:**

Using CWDI and Citing Properly: 1

Contention #1: Prescription drug ads create revenue for pharmaceutical companies, which can be used for research & developing new life-changing drugs. This is important because many ailing patients are in desperate need of a cure. For example, in the recent Ebola outbreak, there is an urgent need for a cure which many pharmaceutical companies are working on. While still uncured, these companies have had some success in being able to create drugs to slow down the disease. Drug development is expensive, so pharmaceutical companies need to recoup that expense through advertising. According to Bruce Jaspen of *The New York Times*, in his article, “Drug Makers Dial down TV Advertising,” published on February 2, 2012, for every \$1 spent on DTC ads, sales of prescription drugs rose by \$4.20. In 2012, the pharmaceutical industry spent \$3.1 billion on direct-to-consumer advertising. In another article titled, “The Truly Staggering Cost of Inventing New Drugs” by Matthew Herper of *Forbes Magazine* on February 10, 2012, Herper states that, “On average, drug development for a single drug costs at least \$4 billion and as much as \$11 billion.” Clearly, the creation of new drugs come at a high cost, both monetarily and to the lives of the patients waiting for treatment. In order for pharmaceutical companies to afford this price tag, they need the revenue earned through the DTC ads.

Using CWDI and Citing Properly: 2

Contention #2: Prescription Drug ads help inform patients about diseases and can even help to diagnose medical problems. This is important because it gives patients a head start with the early diagnosis in order to cure an ailment earlier. According to editors Ashish Parekh, Roland Marcus, Melissa Roberts, and Dennis W. Raisch all doctors or research associates of the November 2011 article, “Risks and Benefits of Direct-to-Consumer Advertising on Patient-Provider Relationship” from the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR), many surveys conducted by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) state that both patients and doctors questioned agreed that the direct-to-consumer (DTC) ads helped them find out and receive treatment for their illness. The article further explains that DTC prescription drug ads had a positive impact on patient compliance (taking drugs as directed). The most compliant group of prescription drug takers are patients who inquired about a prescription as a result of having seen a DTC ad. The opposition may argue that these ads misinform the consumer; however, according to FDA, the Kefauver Harris Act serves against this by stating that any ads about medications must list the side effects and will be subjected to FDA scrutiny of the product. Seeing the DTC ads only helped patients clarify the symptoms that they were experiencing but had trouble verbalizing, which aided their doctor’s in quick and accurate diagnosis.

Citing an Article:

➤ In his/her DATE article (or lecture) "TITLE," by SOURCE,
(date) (title, proper capitalization) (name of source)

AUTHOR argues/reports/contends/maintains/states that
(author's full name) (reporting verb) (main idea/argument; S + V + C)

➤ **Example:** In his September 8th, 1997 article *Michael Dell Turns the PC World Inside Out*, by Fortune magazine, Andrew E. Serwer describes how Michael Dell founded Dell Computers and claims that Dell's low-cost, direct-sales strategy and high quality standards account for Dell's enormous success.

➤ **No Author Example:** According to CNN's May 12, 2011 article, *TransCanada to Work with Department of State on New Keystone XL Route Options*, . . .