

## Debating language

### Opening the debate:

[a nice opening is using a quote]

*Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to this debate.*

*The motion for debate today is: ... defining the motion...*

*Now we as today's proposition/opposition strongly believe that this is true/not true.*

*Let us first define some important terms in this debate...*

*We believe that what is meant by ... is... / that ... are ... When we say ... should ... we mean that ..*

### Presenting the team-line:

*We as today's proposition/opposition have structured our case as follows:*

*I, as the first speaker, will be talking about ...*

*Our second speaker, ..., will elaborate on the fact that ...*

*And our third speaker, ..., will do the rebuttal.*

### Rebutting arguments, rebuilding your case:

*But before I come to my own arguments, let us first have a look at what has been said.*

*I will continue our case in a minute, but before that...*

*There are some things about the... speech that need to be addressed.*

*The first proposition/opposition speaker has told us ...; on the contrary ...*

*S/he also said that ... but in fact ...*

*S/he was claiming that ... but as my first speaker already told you, ...*

### Introducing arguments:

*Let me come to my first/second/next argument...*

*My first argument is...*

*The first reason why we're prop/opposing this motion is...*

### Giving examples:

*There are many examples for this ... for instance...*

*In fact, you can find many examples for this in real life. Just think of...*

*And there are similar cases, such as..., ...*

*So, in this simple example we can clearly see the effect of ...*

*Now because of this ..., we have to support this motion.*

### Summarising & ending your speech:

*So, Ladies and Gentlemen, what have I told you today?*

*Firstly ..., Secondly... [some nice closing words]*

*And for all of these reasons, the motion must stand/fall.*

### Making / rejecting / accepting / answering points of information

*On that point.*

*Wouldn't you have to agree ...?*

*Doesn't what you're saying contradict with ...? What about the ...?*

*How would you explain that ...?*

### Giving summarising speeches

*It is now my pleasure to summarize this debate...*

*Take a look at what both sides have said and see what the outcome of this debate actually is.*

*A first/second major clash was: ...*

*Today's proposition/opposition told us ...*

*And for all these reasons, I beg you to...*