

## LESSON PLAN: HOLDING AN IN-CLASS POST PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

### Handout #2: Political Debates Format

**Topic: “Resolved: that \_\_\_\_\_”**

Affirmative Team Members

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Negative Team Members

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

### Sequence of the Debate

Follow the numbers for proper order of speakers. This order balances advantage during the debate. (Compare with the order of games in a sports championship series.)

| <u>Affirmative Team</u>                      | <u>Time</u> | <u>Negative Team</u>                         | <u>Time</u> |
|--|-------------|--|-------------|
| 1. Opening Statement<br>_____ Debater’s Name | 3 min       | 1. Opening Statement<br>_____ Debater’s Name | 3 min       |
| 3. Rebuttal Argument<br>_____ Debater’s Name | 3 min       | 4. Rebuttal Argument<br>_____ Debater’s Name | 3 min       |
| 6. Question Session<br>_____ Debater’s Name  | 5 min*      | 5. Question session<br>_____ Debater’s Name  | 5 min*      |
| 7. Summary<br>_____ Debater’s Name           | 3 min       | 8. Summary<br>_____ Debater’s Name           | 3 min       |

\*Debater answers 4 questions, one from each member of the opposite team; if time, also answers questions from the floor.

The winning team was: (Circle one.)      **AFFIRMATIVE**      **NEGATIVE**

This team won the debate because: (List one argument which convinced you that this side won.)

---



---

*When you choose the winner, consider only the evidence presented during today’s debate. Your own personal opinions about the topic must be set aside, so that you may judge only the relative strength of each team’s arguments. Needless to add, don’t vote for a team because your friend is on it.*

### Extra Credit

*Look out for the misleading use of techniques of persuasion and for logical fallacies. If you catch any debater using one of these, quote the statement below and identify the logical flaw and you will receive extra credit.*

Statement: \_\_\_\_\_

Logical Fallacy/ Technique of Persuasion: (Circle one)

*Appeal to Authority*

*Appeal to Force*

*Appeal to Popularity*

*Attacking the Person*

*False Dilemma*

*Hasty Generalization*

*Name Calling*

*Slippery Slope*