



# Cheat Sheet BP

## Role of Opening Government

You set the general direction of the debate and define what it is about.

What's the problem with the status quo?  
Alternatively, why was this motion set?

- 1) Formulate your proposal. What exactly do you want to achieve with it?
  - 2) Prove that your policy works and justify your proposal with arguments.
  - 3) Prove with arguments that your "new world" is better than the status quo.
- Your burden of proof: Why this achieves your goals and why we should do this.

## Role of Opening Opposition

According to you the world is better off without government's proposal. You usually but not always defend the status quo. You can offer a counterproposal, but that's usually not recommended.

- 1) Attack the arguments of side government and point out their mistakes ("rebuttal").
- 2) Show with arguments that the situation is better in your world.
- 3) Show preferably on multiple layers why either your goals are more important OR why the goals of side government are better fulfilled on your side. Prove why you have the better world.

## Schedule

- Motion announced
- 15 minutes Preparation
- 1 hour Debate
- 30 minutes Judging + Feedback
- Afterwards: Social!

## SEXIER arguments

### State

All arguments should have catchy titles. They benefit your structure and help the judges follow your speech.

### Explain

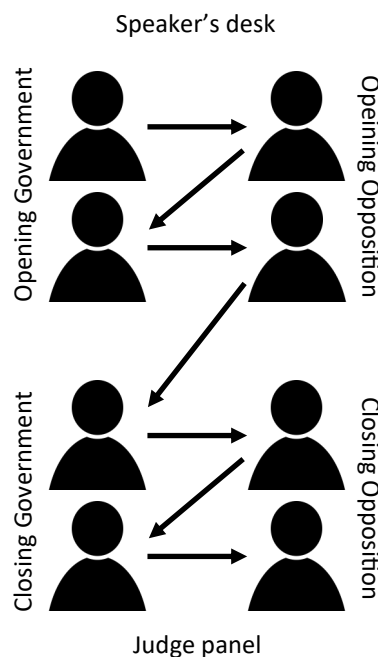
Core of the argument. Explain preferably without logical gaps why the argument is true. It is helpful to ask "why" after each sentence. This way, you avoid logical jumps and realise just how extensive arguments can be.

### Illustrate & Examples

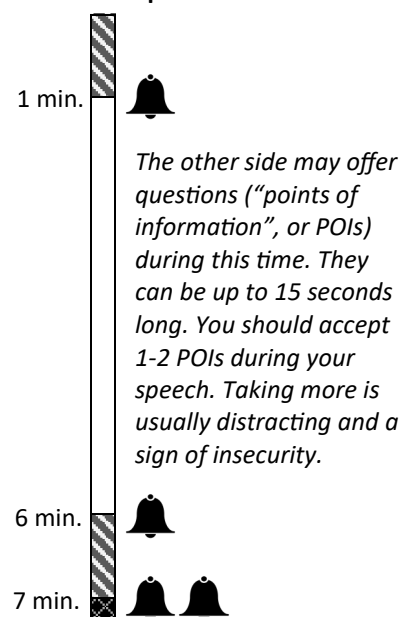
Examples, real or invented, effectively supplement the argument. Examples by themselves do not constitute an argument though!

### Relevance

Why is the argument important and relevant to the debate? Explain!



## 7 minute speech



## Role of closing teams

- The first speech brings an "extension" into the debate which comprises new material (e.g. new arguments). Your contribution needs to be relevant to the debate but also needs to be distinct from the contribution of your opening half.
- The second speech ("whip speech") summarises the debate, identifies "clashes" (issues of contention) and demonstrates why your side and in particular your team has won the debate. You may not introduce completely new arguments.

## Extension

Be clear about what your precise contribution is. You can bring entirely new arguments, but may not directly contradict your own opening half. It is often recommended to focus on one specific aspect and explain it particularly well. You can e.g. go through stakeholders, i.e. those affected by the motion, choose a group of people and explain in detail how they are affected. You can also argue with moral principles, but these need to be explained particularly well. Rebuttal also counts as new material, provided it is distinct from that of your opening half, as do (significantly!) better executions of existing arguments. Your burden: Have a new contribution, explain it well, and sell it as particularly important to the judges.

## Whip speech

You maintain an overview of the debate and identify the main clashes. You may not bring entirely new arguments in your speech, but you may compare existing arguments and, if required, add depth to their analysis. Prove why your side and, more importantly, your team win the clashes. Arguments of the other side which are still standing should be rebutted. The art of whip speeches is firstly to identify the most important clashes and arguments in the debate (unimportant ones need not be mentioned, and you shouldn't simply retell the debate), and secondly to emphasise the extension of your team partner in a way so that it is perceived as the most important contribution in the entire debate.