

Culminating Debate - Knowledge and Knowers

“Machines can know?”

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

Our culminating debate for this unit will be a team debate with each team made up of 5-6 members. The debate will use the following structure:

	Times	Summary of duties	Team member(s)
Affirmative constructive	5	Present the affirmative case.	
Negative CX of Affirmative constructive	2	Ask questions of clarification and set up negative rebuttal arguments	
Negative constructive	5	Present the affirmative case.	
Affirmative CX of Negative constructive	2	Ask questions of clarification and set up affirmative rebuttal arguments	
Negative rebuttal to affirmative constructive	3	Point by point refutation of affirmative case	
Affirmative rebuttal to negative constructive	3	Point by point refutation of negative case	
Scrum	10	Free for all among questioners	
Negative closing	5	Point by point rebuild of negative case (in light of affirmative rebuttal) and summary of the major issues that should sway the debate for the negative.	
Affirmative closing	5	Keep detailed flow notes. Point by point rebuild of affirmative case (in light of negative rebuttal) and summary of the major issues that should sway the debate for the affirmative.	
Prep time	7		
	47		

Debate description

Constructive case outline (this outline will be used for both affirmative and negative constructives).

Statement of central argument - whether the proposition should be answered in the affirmative or negative

Definitions of key terms - This should be firmly connected to your argument

First contention supporting the central argument

Simple statement of argument

Evidence supporting argument (please cite all sources. Multiple pieces of evidence can be used here)

Clarifying explanation

First contention supporting the central argument

Simple statement of argument

Evidence supporting argument (please cite all sources. Multiple pieces of evidence can be used here)

Clarifying explanation

First contention supporting the central argument

Simple statement of argument

Evidence supporting argument (please cite all sources. Multiple pieces of evidence can be used here)

Clarifying explanation

Restatement of central argument

Rebuttal - Using your flow sheet, offer a point by point refutation of all points of the opposing case - including definitions, if applicable. Evidence to support your refutation is strongly recommended.

Closing - In this speech you are both rebuilding your case in light of the opposition arguments made in rebuttal and explaining to the judges what your side believes are the major issues of that should be the basis of the judges decision (in other words, explain to the judges why you should win the debate)

Cross ex - Here the questioners on the team will ask questions of the opposing constructive speaker. These questions should begin with any questions of clarification (to make sure your flow sheet is complete), and then proceed to questions designed to break down the opposing case and set up your arguments.

Scrum - A free for all among the questioners on each team to ask questions of each other and an effort to highlight the strength of your side and the weakness of the opposition. Minimal civility is required here, but this portion of the debate should be spirited.

What is due for each role:

Constructive speakers - Constructive outline

Rebuttal speakers - T chart of what arguments you expect to hear from the other side, and a piece of evidence and short explanation of how you would refute each point. Rebuttal speakers should be prepared to be flexible. Their presentation must not be purely read - it must respond to the specific arguments made by the opposition

Closer - A complete flow of the debate

Questioners - a list of 10 questions against likely opposition arguments

Due dates

Research annotations - Monday, September 20

Constructive, rebuttals and questioners preparations (see above) - Monday, September 27

Debate - Wednesday, September 29

Flow sheets (closer) - Wednesday, September 29