

Preparing a case

Reminder

We sincerely hope that annoying you with this reminder on literally every document and DT session will make it abundantly clear that this is less of a disclaimer and more of a fear:

Please do not take this advice as an exact, specified rule. It is to *help you get started* and *build good habits* and is, in *no way*, intended to dictate how you will be debating throughout your time as a speaker. You will learn to rely less and less on these resources as you get more acquainted with them.

That said, for the time being, this document is a checklist for exactly what to do when prepping for your first few weeks of debating.

Checklist

Since we have 30 minute (or less) preps in our weekly camp, this will be adjusted for that. You can be a little more flexible with the timeline in a 1 hour prep

Done?	When to do	What to do
<input type="checkbox"/>	Before you come to match	Get pen and paper. No, your phone is not a pen nor paper.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Before prep starts	Appoint a resource or speaker as the prep manager. They will make sure everything happens on time.
<input type="checkbox"/>	First 5-10 minutes	Deconstruct motions into its parts (refer to motions handout from DT101). Discuss what the parts mean and what they do not mean. eg. what is the difference between narrative and practice. Deliberate on how these things will impact both proposition and opposition in the debate.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Next 5-10 minutes	Identify the three core arguments from your side. Do <i>not</i> identify points or one liners, write down three to five theses (theseses) which are most important to prove your motion and then group them into logical sections.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Remaining time	Add substantive content to identified theses. For now, use the following step-by-step approach to build your arguments: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Give the thesis2. Paint important characterisations for this argument3. Provide reasoning/analysis to prove the thesis or relevant points4. Explain the core impacts of this argument5. Ground the impacts, make them feel real and important6. Tie it back to motion and need (compulsory) and any other ideas if need be (optional, but can be nice)