

Independent work after session 6

Please go over the remaining slides and familiarise yourself with basic debate terminology and rules.

In addition, watch the first two speakers (1st Government speaker and 1st Opposition speaker) in the example British parliamentary style debate video

Based on all this, please share your first impressions and any questions/comments you may have on our Presemo wall: presemo.aalto.fi/cth5 by 23:55 tonight

What is a debate?

A formal contest in which two teams present opposing arguments on a controversial issue (i.e. resolution, motion or proposition)

- affirmative/government team
- negative/opposing/opposition team

Goal: to sway the audience to your side

Although arguments are prepared in advance, a debate is spontaneous

Debate vs. an informal discussion of a controversial topic

Debate

- Has a formal structure
- Is timed
- Has a group of judges that observes the debate and chooses the winner

Informal discussion of a controversial topic

- Has no formal structure
- Has no time limit
- Has no third party involved and no winner

Basic terms

Resolution/proposition/motion: the opinion about which two teams argue

Affirmative/Government team: agrees with the resolution

Negative/Opposing/Opposition team: disagrees with the resolution

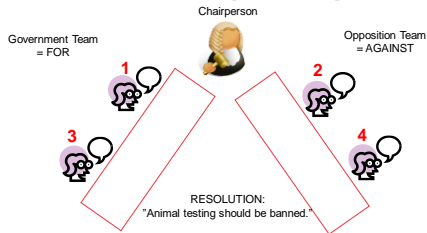
Refutations: criticising the other team's points by pointing out flaws in logic or evidence

- Apart from the 1st speaker, 50% of each speech = refutation (criticising the previous speaker's points)

Rebuttal: Summarising the debate and explaining why your side has won

Judges: decide the winner

Debate format and speaker positions



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Question or comments related to debating/debates on our course?

→ Please write them on our Presemo wall by 23:55 tonight!

(presemo.aalto.fi/cth5)

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A quick look at an example BP debate

WSDC 2018 QF: England VS USA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PvHfJkNoWVY>

Motion: This House believes that foreigners should not be allowed to own land in developing countries.

1st Gov speaker

1st Opp speaker

First impressions/observations? → write on the Presemo wall!

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Homework

1) Watch your Elevator Pitch video and complete the self-evaluation by Friday 16.10., 23:55.

2) Go over the remaining slides and links given and familiarise yourself with debate terminology and rules. Write any questions, comments and/or first impressions on our Presemo wall by 23:55 tonight: presemo.aalto.fi/cth5 (If you want, you can search for more information about debate elements: refutations, points of information (POIs))

3) Brainstorm and research controversial topics for debate

- In science & technology (computational engineering?)
- With those potential debate topics, research clear arguments for and against. Be prepared to share them in session 7

4) Check the teacher feedback on your funding proposal (draft 2), rewrite the proposal and submit the final draft to MyCourses for grading

- Deadline: Wed 4.11., 12:30 pm

NB! No session next week (exam week), see you on 28.10.!