

MDU Advanced Training Sessions // Week 6



whips & deputies

how to think about the second speech



- deputy speeches and whip speeches have **a lot in common**
 - you are your first speaker's biggest simp (i.e. your speech should be centred around theirs, **defend it, strengthen it, position it**)
 - common **main purposes**
 - responsiveness
 - rebuilding
 - weighing and strategic commentary
- some **differences**
 - whip has more control over the debate but more material to deal with, deputy relies more on predictions

structure of DPM/DLO

PM/LO

argument 1

argument 2

argument 3

argument 4?

fluffy intro

- think of your case as a 'worldview' rather than just a set of arguments
- use the intro to pre-emptively weigh yourself over your closing (listen to their POIs carefully!)

response 1

- what they said (be charitable!)
- respond back
- pre-emptive weighing – how this interact with your own material that is to come?

argument 3

- **contextualise** it within the top half – why will it matter?
- what my partner said (do not repeat, **rebuild**)
- what did they say in response (rebuttal/entire clashing point) → **respond back**
- **summarise** why you are winning the clash/ the point still stands and reiterate why it matters

argument 2

- contextualise
- what my partner said
- what did they say in response
- summarise why you're winning the clash

argument 1

- contextualise
- what my partner said
- what did they say in response
- summarise why you're winning the clash

final weigh-up

- how do theirs and your case interact as a whole
- specifically outline the metrics on which you are winning (justify why they matter the most)
- be as charitable as possible so that you weigh-up also works against closing!

structure of a whip speech

MG/MO

extension 1

extension 2

fluffy intro

- think of your case as a 'worldview' rather than just a set of arguments

CG/CO responses

- always do at least some extraneous rebuttal (later flag integrated rebuttal very explicitly)

response 1

- what they said (be charitable!)
- respond back
- explain how this interacts with your own material to come (is this going to be outweighed? Is it irrelevant?)

summary 1

- **contextualise** the point within the debate (why it matters – use to weigh over your opening)
- what my partner said (**rebuild**, do not repeat)
- how this interacts on **diagonal**
- what did **closing** respond (flag if they did not)
- final **weigh-up** – why this matters?

summary 2

- contextualise
- rebuild
- diagonal
- closing
- weigh-up

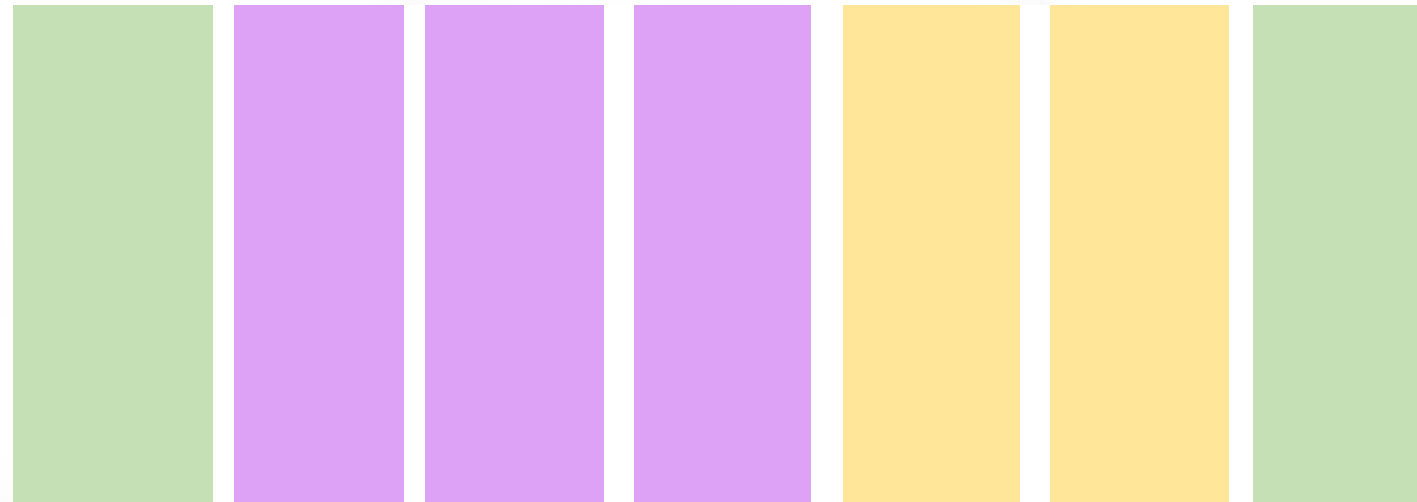
final weigh-up

- how do everyone's and your cases interact as a whole
- specifically outline the metrics on which you are winning (justify why they matter the most)

structure of a whip speech ii



messy debate



- pretty much a **team-by-team** structure
- mitigating the claims of everyone else, explaining why they are less relevant and why only your extension matters in the context of the round

perfectly clashing debate



- pretty much a '**clash-based**' structure
- clashing your extension points against everyone else's contributions on the same issue



the template **adapts** based on the kind of debate you are in

prioritisation

- you won't be able to dedicate enough time to absolutely everything – **prioritise!**
 - make sure your first speaker is **mechanically robust** and pushes through the important analytic links as a priority → rebuttal should be mainly yours
 - anticipate the weaknesses of your first speaker and **adapt to them**
 - strategically well positioned, but missing on analysis → **rebuild**
 - analytically robust, but not strategically positioned → **strategy/weigh-up**
 - critically listen to your first speaker and communicate!



prep time

- focus mainly on your **first speaker** – never hoard material for your speech!
- first speakers often excel at content generation - your role is to pick the correct strategic material and question them in order to ensure pre-emptiveness
- make sure you **heavily communicate** with the first speaker and you both understand the material → both of your speeches need to read as one cohesive case
- **DPM/DLO**
 - write the headlines of your partner's points and main mechanism – leave space for rebuilding and responses
 - can pre-write rebuttal to a point you know the other side will **obviously** make



during the debate

- **DPM/DLO**

- listen to your partner's speech – add clarifications as they are speaking
- carefully listen to PM/LO/DPM, write down charitable responses to their case – anticipate backloading/ good CG/CO!

- **whip**

- listen carefully to your opening
 - note down where they are addressing the same issues as your extension and charitably outline what is missing
 - note down where they are addressing different issues than your extension – note why that's less relevant
- listen carefully to diagonal – do the same thing
- be in **charge of POIs up** until after your partner's speech
- listen to your partner – add clarifications as they are speaking
- all the comparisons between you and top half/ clarifications for your extension need to be done when your partner finishes speaking – **all focus on GW/MO**
- note all main claims of MO – add refutation
- listen to all responses GW/MO give to your case, not them down and respond back



specific tasks

- **rebuilding**

- how do I know what to rebuild?
 - listen to the first speaker
 - ask your first speaker
 - listen to the concrete responses from the other side (or lack thereof!)
 - read the room (online a bit harder but sometimes still works)

- **rebuttal**

- is the claim comparative?
- is there a problem – solution gap?
- is this the tipping point?
- is their characterisation accurate?
- just mitigate – but be clear that that's what you are doing!

- **weigh-up**

- different metrics – intensity, scale, uniqueness, vulnerability of actors affected (special duty etc.)

