

What is a British Parliamentary



Videos to watch about BP

- Tom Stansfield - <https://youtu.be/8GrREnb5Tb8>
- Will Jones - <https://youtu.be/sOkEGJk8bEc>
- Kiran (BP Adjing) - <https://youtu.be/JobCI3lt7k8>

- Credit to Deepak and Anita for making the first half of this

What is the goal of this session?

- Quick rundown of what happens in a BP debate
- Tips and Strategies for the unique parts of BP (positions, extensions, POIs)
- Please ask questions, I have done this for too long and would like to make this as applicable as possible

What I wish I had known before BP

- Don't try to totally change how you speak, you still need to make arguments the same way in BP like you would in 3v3
- Your objective should not always be to get first – some things are out of your control
- Don't panic!

What is BP???

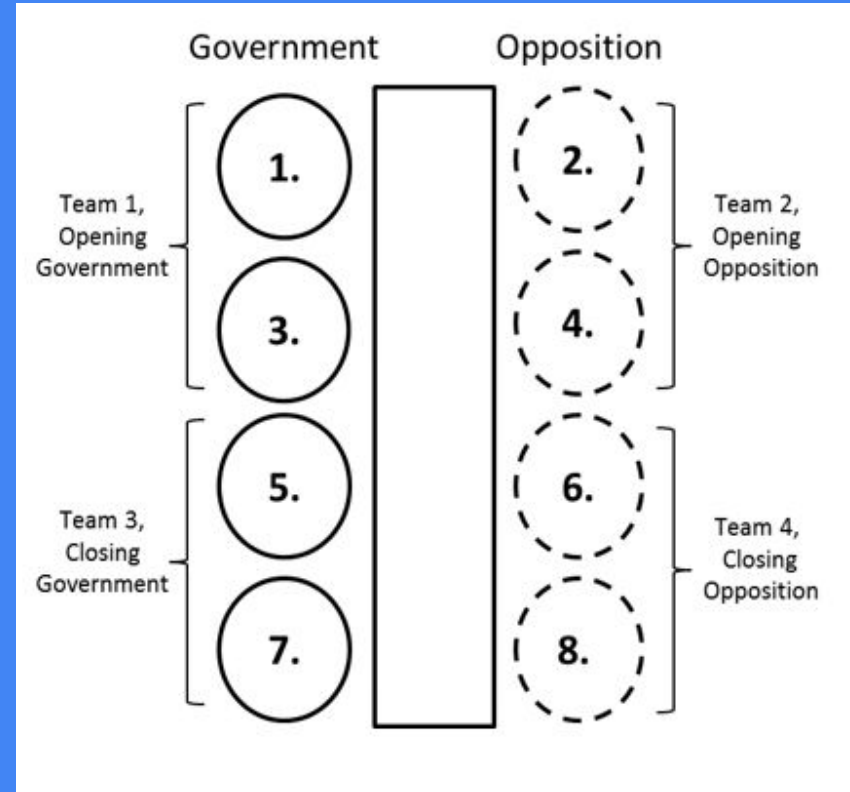
- Each Speech is 7 minutes long, with 8 speakers making up four teams of two.

Structure

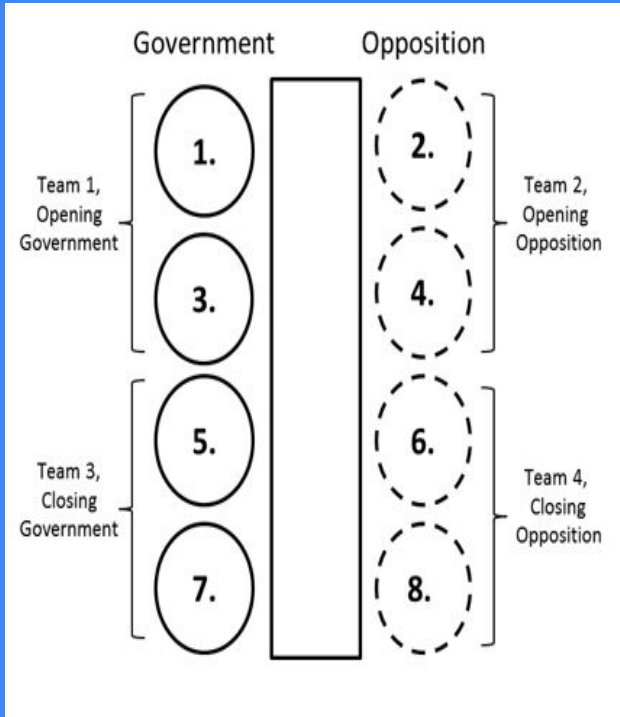
Each debate has 2 sides - Gov + Opp

Each side has 2 teams - the Opening team and the Closing team - with 2 speakers in each

The closing half speak once all of opening has finished, to “extend” on the debate had



Speaking Order



Roles

OPENING GOVERNMENT

- Prime Minister - first to speak and opens the case for the Government,
- Deputy Prime Minister - third to speak, adds to OG case,

OPENING OPPOSITION

- Leader of Opposition – second to speak, opens the Opposition case,
- Deputy Leader of Opposition – fourth to speak, adds to the opp case,

CLOSING GOVERNMENT

- Member of Gov – opens the closing Half
- Gov Whip – closes the Gov side

CLOSING OPPOSITION

- Member of Opp – speaks second in closing and opens opp case
- Opp Whip – closes debate for the Opp side

Speaker Roles in Depth

OPENING HALF

PM/OL; “sets up the debate”, model, makes it clear what government stands for principledly. OL responds to PM. Very similar to 1st aff/neg.

DPM/DOL; builds on the government/opposition case by adding new material, taking material away from closing, and responding to gov/opp. Very similar to a 2nd affirmative/negative speaker.

CLOSING HALF

Gov/Opp Member: introduces their EXTENSION and responds to previous speakers where they can. Think of it like a 2nd Aff/neg speech

Gov/Opp Whip: The final speakers for their respective sides, their role is to use the extension that their member has presented and use it to show why their closing side has won. Think of it like a 3rd speaker speech.

What is an extension?

An extension is a new contribution of material put forward by closing teams that aims to be the most **important material** in the context of the debate.

An extension can be a radically new piece of material, or it can take an existing piece of material and developed further. It is basically anything new.

Teams can run multiple points of extension, and these points can be new substantive or new rebuttal (in the same way a second speaker might make a piece of rebuttal into a new point of substantive).

When an extension is indistinct from material brought by an opening team, the extension is considered “derivative” and is unlikely to be debate-winning. Make sure you emphasise what is new/different

Point of Informations

Getting to ask questions...during a speech??

What - the ability to to put your hand up and ask a question of the opposing speaker.

The speaker can turn down the question.
Teams should take 3-4 POIS between them.
Unstrategic to take more than 2 for a speaker.

When - you cannot ask a question during 'protected time', which is the first and last minute of the speech

Why? This allows opening teams to be relevant in closing half and closing teams to allude to their case in opening half. Also fun to do!

Strategical Tips!



Opening Half

- DON'T PANIC
- Two Questions
 - Where has this been done before?
 - Who wants this?
- Be clear on characterization
- Make the arguments in full

Closing Half

- Don't commit to your extension too early
- Be thinking of ways that you will be able to beat other teams in the debate
- Make it very clear what your extension is
 - Give it a funky name -> X of Y (Purity of Doctrine)

Tips for an extension

- Generally aim to do one of two things
 - New argument to shift the focus of the debate
 - An argument that aims to decisively win the existing clash of the debate
- How to come up with extensions?
 - Create a new argument (new stakeholders/contexts/areas)
 - Flip the opening argument (if they said what's great about something push what happens If this motion doesn't happen)
 - Deeper analysis of opening's arguments (make sure this is clearly new and highlight the importance of the contributions)
 - New rebuttal (should be framed as a key argument that disproves key parts of the opposition case)

Tips for POIs

- When offering
 - Don't do spontaneous rebuttal
 - WRITE THEM DOWN
 - While waiting to be taken think about how you might answer them
- Taking
 - Take them when you want, don't prioritise them over your arguments
 - Prioritise taking them from the stronger opposition team
 - Gives some sort of immediate response
- How to ask?
 - Think of what function they are meant to play?
 - Contradictions/tensions
 - Failure of logic
 - Laying a trap or areas for extensions
 - Don't simply just point out missing analysis – that just helps them build a better case!

The goal

- <https://youtu.be/uzDeRpc0-MQ?t=832>

Knifing

- You're close
- When to l

- Opening
somet

- Oppos

- How to d

- If not p
have y

- If part

reasonable debate can happen if it no longer exists



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can

Advice

For Each

- Position!

Opening Gov

- DO NOT PANIC!
- There is a limit to what can go wrong, run a simple substantive case (what is the problem, how this policy fixes it, why it's the only option)
- Your goal is to remain relevant for the whole debate
 - Find the best material of the debate and own it
 - Force all the other teams to come to you
 - Make sure you ask POIs!

Opening Opposition

- To win from OO you need to put forward a substantive case with its own harms and (if relevant) own ways to solve the problem. Then need to prove them comprehensively
 - Try not to get sucked into running arguments about whether this can be implemented
- Like OG, you need to make sure you remain relevant throughout the debate. Focus on substantively proving a case that clashes with OG
- Use POIs!

Closing Teams

- Member
 - You need to get the extension into the debate and take control of the debate. Make sure your rebuttal is linking back to your extension and is not just extraneous.
- Whip
 - Need to do more than just a 3rd speaker
 - Need to show that your material wins you the debate
 - There is a balancing act between focusing on your extension and what has happened in the debate around it. Make sure you're getting your extension in to as many facets of the debate as possible

POIs at Closing

- While opening half is happening you should be trying to lay traps or find ways to broaden the debate (i.e. does it apply in this context or to this stakeholder).
- Do not give away your extension until it is the speech before your member speaks. You do not want the opening team to cover that material.
- POIs to closing half are about attacking their extension or forcing them to respond to yours.

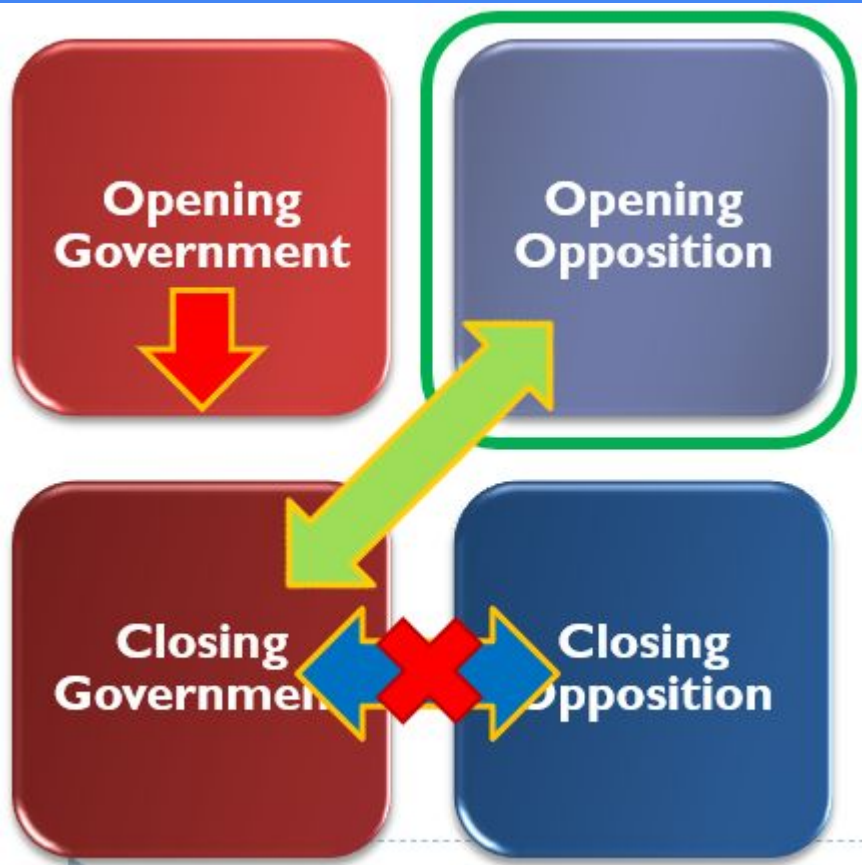
Position Specific Thoughts

- Closing Government
 - Government whip is the only speaker that can respond to CO. Make sure to push back at them where possible.
- Closing Opposition
 - Ensure the whole extension is out at Opposition Member as whip is limited in what they can add (like a 3rd neg!)

Tactical Thoughts

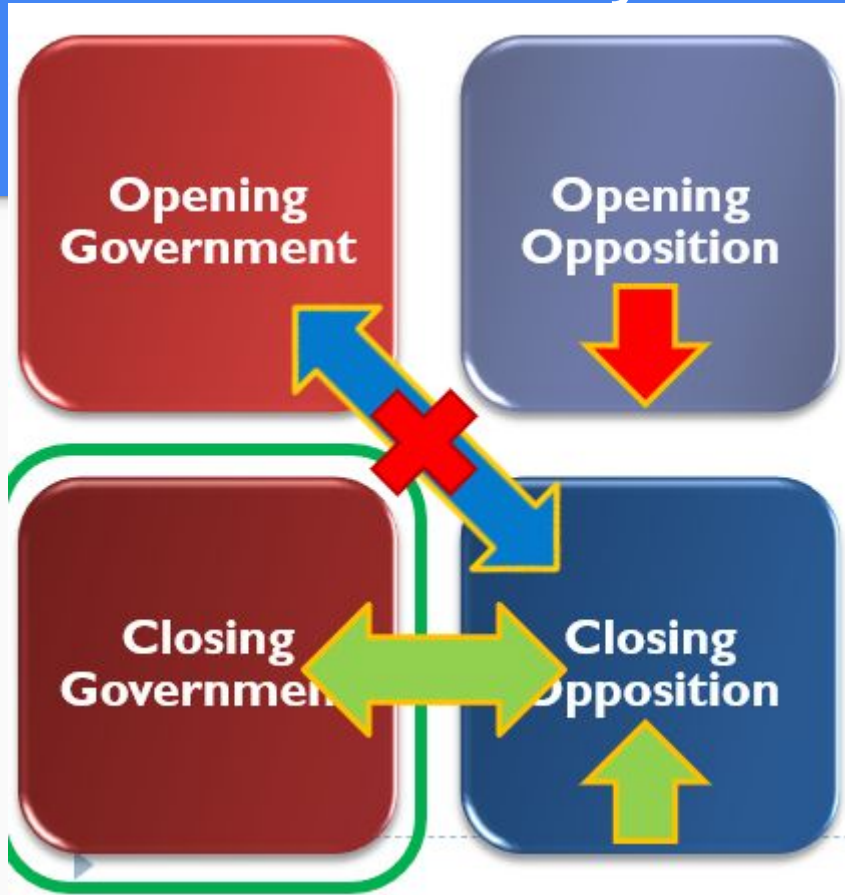
- 3v3 you need to beat the other team. BP there are other considerations
 - Opening teams can fall out of the debate -> Their material not part of main clash
 - Closing teams may never get themselves into the debate
 - Figure out main clashes and win them
 - Deal with stronger teams

Path to Victory 1



- OG lost, OO thinks they'll do well
- As OO you need to think about the closing debate
 - Do what is needed to get ahead of OG
 - Then build your substantive, force CG to have to come to you, bring better material than CO

Path to Victory 2



- OO has lost and OG won the opening half. CO is going to be able to run the Opp case that OO should have run
- If CG goes for OO then they win there but the rest of the debate is CO engaging with OG
- Goal: CG needs to judge to focus on the closing clash and forget about OG

- Questions?