

SAMPLE CHAIRPERSON'S SPEECH



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Opening the debate

“(Call the house to order) Ladies and Gentlemen...

Welcome to this evening's debate between _____
PROPOSITION SCHOOL NAME
and _____
OPPOSITION SCHOOL NAME

My name is _____ and I am your chairperson for tonight's debate.

Since the Concern Worldwide Debates Programme began in 1984 over 40,000 people have wrestled with issues ranging from Sustainable Development and Climate Change, to Terrorism, extreme poverty and the scourge of HIV and AIDS.

We hope that by your participation in the debates, that you as audience members and debaters will become active citizens and agents of change, seeking justice and human rights for all.

Concern Worldwide would like to thank the audience for your support this evening, as well as the adjudicators, teachers and teams for making this debate possible.

Motion

Read aloud the motion

“The motion before the house this evening is that: _____

Teams

Introduce the speakers individually

“
PROPOSITION SCHOOL NAME
i _____ ii _____ iii _____ iv _____
OPPOSITION SCHOOL NAME
i _____ ii _____ iii _____ iv _____

Adjudicators and timekeeper

“Tonight's Chief Adjudicator is _____.
The assistant adjudicators are _____ and _____.
The time keeper is _____.

Rules

Briefly run through the following -

“Each participant speaks for 4 minutes and 30 seconds. The bell is sounded at 3 minutes and again at 4 minutes 15 seconds, at which time the speaker has 15 seconds to finish-up. Anyone speaking for longer than 4 and a half minutes will incur a time penalty.
I will now ask the timekeeper to sound the bell (so that you know what to listen out for)!
Heckling and sarcastic remarks are out of place and will be penalised by the adjudicators.
The use of mobile phones and electronic devices for timing purposes are prohibited.