

## Guidelines for Debating Speeches:

These guidelines describe the general characteristics of debating speeches of different qualities. This is not an exhaustive list of good and bad things that adjudicators may consider. Speeches will be still judged on their quality and persuasiveness as a whole within the context of the debate.

<u>Quality</u>	<u>General Characteristics of the Speech</u>
Amazing!	Extremely impressive and far exceeds the standard of their division Is consistently thorough and very sophisticated in addressing all major themes of the debate, while also identifying their relative importance Uses manner deliberately and strategically to achieve a fantastically persuasive and engaging speech Offers debate-winning analysis in rebuttal and/or argumentation
Very good	Identifies most of the important themes of the debate Offers novel analysis and some important contributions Logically and substantively develops material in an easy to follow, confident and persuasive manner.
Good	Shows an awareness of issues in the debate but lacks precision or appropriate prioritization when engaging with them Fulfills their role by advancing identifiable arguments and/or relevant rebuttal but may fail to sufficiently justify, explain or substantiate these Manner is clear but does not additionally enhance the speaker's persuasiveness
Competent	Shows a basic understanding of their role in the debate Provides some successful analysis and makes consistent effort to advance arguments or rebuttal Manner is coherent but lacks animation and fluency
Limited	Manner, whilst understandable, diminishes speech's persuasiveness Shows little understanding of their role in the debate but occasionally attempts to provide rebuttal and/or argumentation Contributions are trivial or unimportant in the context of the debate
Deficient	Shows no understanding of their role in the debate – no deliberate attempt is made to structure or compose rebuttal or argumentation Manner is at times difficult to understand and hard to follow Few contributions are made to the debate
Poor	Provides no contribution to the debate Manner is consistently confused and often incoherent