



Philomathean Society  
*Parliamentary CheatSheet*

Prime Minister 5 Minute Address:

- Begin the speech - (30 secs) Address Speaker, Opponent, Team Member, **state** the resolution or paint a picture/tell a story. Get us interested and get down the basics of the debate.
- Rational - (30 secs) explain why this debate is important, why the resolution must pass for the sake of a grander cause, introduce broader themes of the argument. Introduce the basic conflict of the debate - i.e. security vs. liberty - and the basic way of evaluating who will win - i.e. does the most good for U.S. citizens
- Signpost - (10 secs) outline the argument presented by Side-Government, including its three points with memorable names (but make them relevant), mention that your partner will cover the third point
- Point 1 - (1:45 mins) Explain the first point as you would a Body Paragraph, state your thesis, *why your point validates the resolution's passing*, give evidence, analyze the evidence, then say what the importance or impact of the positive things you have said the resolution will achieve or the negative things it will prevent
- Point 2 - (1:45 mins) Explain the second point, same as above
- Recap - (20 secs) Tell the speaker what you have done i.e. restate major themes or points

Member of the Opposition 8 Minute Address

- Begin the speech - (15 secs) Address Speaker, Opponent, Team Member, **state** the resolution and that you are AGAINST it.
- Signpost - (15 secs) first state that you will refute the Prime Minister, and what you will refute, outline the argument presented by Side-Opposition, including its three points with memorable names, indicate you will cover first two points
- Refutation - (3 mins) Breakdown quotations you have jotted down and explain to the speaker why what the PM has said either is a logical fallacy or fails to prove the necessity of passing the resolution. Attack the first point, explain its weaknesses before the MC can go up.

- Point 1 - (1:45 mins) Explain the first point(s) as you would a Body Paragraph, state your thesis, *why your point validates the resolution's failing*, give evidence, analyze the evidence
- Point 2 - (1:45 mins) Same as above
- Point 3 - (45 secs) Get it out there, this does not need to be done as thoroughly, and your last speaker will spend more time on it, but it needs to be inserted into the debate
- Recap (15 secs) - Tell the speaker why your points are more persuasive than the government's

#### Minister to the Crown 8 Minute Address

- Begin the speech - (30 secs) Address Speaker, Opponent, Team Member, **state** the resolution and that the MO's comments have not truly defeated the Resolution.
- Signpost - (15 secs) first state that you will refute the MO, and what you will refute,
  - Outline more deeply the two points you will address, restate the PM's original point
- Refutation - (2:45 mins) Breakdown quotations you have jotted down and explain to the speaker why what the MO has said either is a logical fallacy or fails reasonable understanding. Attack their first point, explain its weaknesses before the LO can go up.
- Reconstruction - (2 min) *Briefly* rebuild what the PM has said by invalidating the MO's refutations
- Point 3 - (2 mins) Explain the next two points
- Crux - (30 secs) Summarize the debate by explaining its greater significance

#### Leader of the Opposition 8 Minute Address

- Begin the speech - (30 secs) Address Speaker, Opponent, Team Member, **state** the resolution and that the MC's comments have not supported the Resolution, good intro w/ story if you can think of one
- Signpost - (15 secs) first state that you will refute the MC, and what you will refute,
- Refutation - (2:45 mins) Take this opportunity to attack the Side-Government argument as a whole. You know all three of their points in full, destroy the argument's structure or logic. On individual points, go all in for the clearest rebuttal and try to turn them.
- Reconstruction - (1:45 min) *Briefly* rebuild what the MO has said by invalidating the MC's refutations
- Point 3 - (1:15) Explain in more detail the last point and spend more time strengthening this
- Crux - (1:30 mins) Summarize the debate by explaining its greater significance, make it clash with the MC's, break down into 3 questions, compare your impacts with theirs, or in some other way make clear why you have won the debate

#### Prime Minister 3 Minute Hail Mary

- Begin Speech - (30 secs) Prepare the audience by explaining you want to accomplish a lot in a short period of time, give a good little anecdote to give your speech some

presentation “flavor”

- Address Confusion (20 secs) - if there has been any confusion clarify it - if there is significant confusion, address this in the Heart
- Heart (1:50 mins) - Boil down the debate. **DO NOT FOCUS ON RECONSTRUCTING YOUR SIDE OR TRYING TO COVER ALL OF THE ARGUMENTS.** Instead, think about the main heart of your debate and the main, central point of their debate and compare why yours is more important/stronger OR ask three central questions and show why you won all of them OR analyze the impacts on both sides and show why your impacts are more significant/more likely to occur/more harmful/less reversible or more permanently detrimental
- Closing (20 secs) - make it colorful