

NEISD

Speech Rules & Guidelines

Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Through this contest, students are encouraged to develop a direct and communicative delivery. The statement of the topic is a resolution of value rather than of policy. This results in emphasizing logic, theory and philosophy while eliminating "plan" arguments. The affirmative speaker begins with a six minute constructive speech, followed by a three minute cross-examination period by his/her opponent. The negative speaker then presents a seven minute constructive speech, followed by a three minute cross-examination by his opponent. There are three alternating rebuttal speeches, beginning and ending with the affirmative speaker. These rebuttals are four, six, and three minutes respectively. Each debater shall be allowed a total of three minutes of preparation time per round. Directors of Invitational Qualifying Tournaments must choose either the current N.F.L. or U.I.L. topic. No grace time is allowed in debate beyond completion of a sentence. The judge may penalize for overtime through reduction in speaker points. Through this contest the student gains skills of analysis, perfects principles of argumentation, and learns effective research techniques in order to present the most effective case for or against a given proposition on a question of national or international implication.

Affirmative Constructive	6	Minutes
Negative Cross Examination	3	Minutes
Negative Constructive	7	Minutes
Affirmative Cross Examination	3	Minutes
Affirmative Rebuttal	4	Minutes
Negative Rebuttal	6	Minutes
Affirmative Rebuttal	3	Minutes
L/D PREP TIME (per debater)	3	Minutes