

Lincoln/Douglas Debate Format

1AC (first Affirmative Constructive) – 7 minutes

A good introduction that attracts the audiences attention and interest in the topic
Clearly state the resolution
Clearly state each of your contentions
 Support with reason and evidence
Conclude effectively

Cross Ex of the Aff by the Neg – 3 minutes

You ask questions – have a strategy or at the very least a direction to your questioning
Be courteous
Face the audience

1NC (first Negative Constructive) – 8 minutes

A good introduction that attracts the audiences attention and interest in the topic
Clearly state the Negative's position on the topic
Clearly state the Negative's Observations
 Support with reason and evidence
Attack and question the Affirmative's Contentions/evidence
Conclude effectively

Cross Ex of the Neg by the Aff – 3 minutes

You ask questions – have a strategy or at the very least a direction to your questioning
Be courteous
Face the audience

Rebuttal Speeches – No new arguments are allowed – new evidence, analysis is ok

1AR (first Affirmative Rebuttal) - 4 minutes

Respond to the Neg Observations – show how they are not as strong/relevant as the Aff Contentions
Rebuild the Aff case

NR (Negative Rebuttal) – 7 minutes

Respond to latest Affirmative arguments
Make your final case to the audience that the Neg position is superior to the Aff
Try and convince the audience the Aff has failed to carry the burden of proof
Summarize the debate and conclude effectively and ask for the audience to agree with the Neg position

2AR (second Affirmative Rebuttal) – 4 minutes

Respond to final Negative arguments
Summarize the debate and show the audience how the Aff position is superior – and the Aff has carried the burden of proof
Conclude effectively.

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