

Topeka Model United Nations



Delegate Manual

<http://topekamodelun.org>

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History of United Nations

The United Nations is an effort by most countries in the world to solve problems peacefully through negotiation and cooperation. In 1942, 26 countries pledged to continue fighting against the Axis powers in World War II, this was the Declaration of United Nations. Representatives from 50 countries met in 1945 to draw up the United Nations Charter. The Charter was ratified by China, France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States and a majority of other participating nations on October 24, 1945. Currently there are 193 member nations in the United Nations and the councils for the member nations are General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, and Security Council.

History of Model United Nations

In 1947, Model United Nations emerged from the Model League of Nations Assembly, following the example that the world had set in 1945. Model United Nations is a program that exists globally, for the purpose of educating students on the function of United Nations and to help the students learn about world affairs and cooperation with foreign nations. Topeka Model United Nations is divided into nine councils: General Assembly 1 and 2, Economic and Social Council 1 and 2, Political Council 1 and 2, Security Council, and World Council 1 and 2. Each council mimics a council or subcommittee of the United Nations. The main purpose of Model United Nations is to learn about different cultures, public speaking, diplomacy, negotiation, or world affairs.

Useful Websites

Country Information

The UN's National Government Information Page	www.un.org/esa/national.htm
UN CyberSchoolBus Country at a Glance	www.cyberschoolbus.un.org/infonation/index.asp
BBC News Country Profiles	http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/country_profiles/default.stm
CIA World Factbook	www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook
Country Watch	www.countrywatch.com
Country Reports	www.countryreports.org
<i>The Economist</i> Country Briefings	www.economist.com/countries
Embassies in Washington, DC	www.embassy.org/embassies
Governments on the WWW	www.gksoft.com/govt/en
Infoplease Country Information	www.infoplease.com/countries.html
One World – Nations Online	www.nationsonline.org/oneworld
Political Resources	www.politicalresources.net/index2.htm
UN Missions	www.un.int
US Department of State Country Background Notes	www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn

General UN Resources

United Nations Website	www.un.org
World Map of UN Websites	www.un.org/aroundworld.map/
Organizational Chart of the UN System	www.un.org/aboutun/chart.html
Official Website Locator for the UN System	www.unsystem.org
UN Databases	www.un.org/databases
UN New Center	www.un.org/news
UN Chronicle Magazine	www.un.org/chronicle
United Nations University	www.unu.edu
UN Public Information Guide	www.un.org/MoreInfo/pubsvs.html

Principal Organs of the UN

General Assembly	www.un.org/ga
Economic and Social Council	www.un.org/docs/ecosoc
Security Council	www.un.org/sc
International Court of Justice	www.icj-cij.org
Secretariat	www.un.org/documents/st.htm
Trusteeship Council	www.un.org/documents/tc.htm

Writing Position Papers

Each country delegation is to prepare a Position Paper concerning their country's *general policy* toward the established resolution topics.

A Position Paper contains a nation's perception of the main world problems or issues, the points that need solving and the reasons for it, and the nation's recommendations for a solution. Specifics need not be included and all agenda items need not be covered. Those items that the nation feels are most important should be stressed/highlighted, based upon your research and the agenda topics.

The written statement will provide you with a better understanding of your nation's position in relation to other nations; it should not include everything your country has to say on a certain topic but be a brief overview – perhaps one paragraph for each agenda topic you are addressing. Your position paper will serve as an outline or springboard for constructing your Resolution Paper.

The following is a list of items (adapted from www.unausa.org) to consider when writing your position paper:

1. A brief introduction to your country and its history concerning the topic and committee;
2. How the issue(s) affect your country;
3. Your country's policies with respect to the issue and your country's justification for these policies;
4. Quotes from your country's leaders about the issue;
5. Statistics to back up your country's position on the issue;
6. Actions taken by your government with regard to the issue;
7. Conventions and resolutions that your country has signed or ratified;
8. UN actions that your country supported or opposed;
9. What your country believes should be done to address the issue;
10. What your country would like to accomplish in the committee's resolution;
11. How the positions of other countries affect your country's position.

This paper should be typed and submitted to your sponsor prior to the writing of any resolutions. Papers will be collected for possible submission/distribution at MUN.

Good sites for country information in the past have included:

www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook

www.un.org/esa/sustdev/natlinfo/natlinfo.htm

www.usauna.org

If you come across any additional sites that you may believe should be added to the above list, please let your sponsor know so that those additional site addresses can be shared with other squad members, as well.

NOTE: Please write your name on the *back* of your Position Paper when submitting it to your sponsor.

Position Paper Example #1

NEPAL **POSITION PAPER**

INTRODUCTION

We the delegates of the republic of Nepal, wish to see the world's ailments fixed. We are working to provide more humane treatment towards workers, stop climate change, stopping drug trafficking, solving border disputes, stopping human trafficking, and fixing the overpopulation crisis.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. Fair treatment for Workers (children!)

Nepal has been making progress towards protecting children's rights. The CWIN is an organization set up to protect children's rights in Nepal. The government is beginning to create more organizations for worker's fair treatment. Unfair worker treatment has been prominent in Nepal's past and there are officials working to resolve these issues. Therefore Nepal is beginning to take a more forceful position to abolish unfair worker treatment.

3. Climate control among developing and industrialized nations

The country of Nepal is primarily a mountainous and frozen region, however due to climate change this is becoming quite different. The weather in the mountainous regions is becoming unpredictable with the rains coming at different times and intensities throughout the year. Therefore Nepal is on the frontlines of the nations affected most by climate change. Action must be taken to solve this expanding issue.

8. Eliminating International Drug Trafficking:

The country of Nepal has become a popular transit for international drug trafficking. So consequentially they are among those nations who are most affected by the problem of Drug trafficking. For these reasons we are resolved to stop the global issue of drug trafficking and will be able to support any movements made within Nepal to prevent the drug trafficking.

POLITICAL COUNCIL

1. Settling International border and trade disputes:

The country of Nepal has recently been involved in signing a trade agreement between the south Asian countries. This agreement is just the start of bringing trade barriers down between those countries. Nepal is very optimistic towards expanding trade and settling international border disputes.

3. Human Trafficking and smuggling

Nepal is a country that is strongly tied to the issue of human trafficking. Nepal is also in the Southern Asia region that is most closely linked with the trafficking. Over 5000 Nepali girls are trafficked and sold to other countries every year. The government wishes to pursue an aggressive policy in eliminating human trafficking. The detrimental effects of this trafficking are seen all across the country. These are all reasons Nepal will support resolutions to stop human trafficking.

6. Addressing the issue of overpopulation

Populations are growing rapidly all over the world while natural resources dwindle. Nepal itself is ranked 62nd on overpopulation. The population issue is one that is most pressing and many of the countries in Asia are also overpopulated. With such a tie to the population issue we as Nepal want to solve this growing crisis.

CONCLUSION

These issues must be solved for, lest we allow our fellow humans to suffer. We need to work to fix these universal issues and resolve the political issues that plague this world.

Position Paper Example #2

MOTHER RUSSIA

Position Paper

The Russian Federation in general believes strongly in the sovereignty of individual nations, both from international political interference and from unfair financial obligation. Naturally any policy that is effective and causes good in the lives of people is a worthy cause, but before we become another lemming in a swarm of nations hurling the world off of a cliff, we wish to assert

our resistance to any resolution that violates the best interests of Russia. After all, as a global hegemonic power, we have a right to "look out for number one," since our welfare indirectly affects the welfare of millions of others. Regardless, any morally just, cheap, easy action is always something worth passing. With that, let's examine some of the specific nuances of Russia's stance on several issues.

The Russian stance towards those inhumane interrogation methods used by nations applied to non-state actors is that of great sovereign issue. The intent of the United Nations to limit and restrict these practices seems to hinder intelligence and the true safety of the state. Additionally, it is ineffective. If the United Nations will contend to defending the rights of non-state actors, it must be a true resolution of action, not of apathetic morale. As for the international dilemma of drug trafficking, Russians believe that the institution of drug trafficking should be combated, but the United Nations initiatives should keep out of industrialized countries, whose jurisdiction and opinions should be unimpeded. We believe that the act should be fought, but not by an international organization. Also, for the predicament of Palestinian-Israeli conflict, Russian beliefs include staying out of Middle-Eastern sovereignty. The tragedy of the destruction occurring in this region will not conclude without the absolute absence of more prominent powers to fuel the fire of this conflict, supporting either side.

The Russian Federation stands firmly in the view of ending the growing industry of human trafficking. This parasitic practice not only affects the global economy but also infringes on the quality of life for countless Russian citizens. In addition to this, our Motherland's view on the humanitarian crisis in developing countries is as follows: unless the problems within a sovereign nation are affecting Russia, or the global economy, it is not our responsibility or right to shoulder the ramifications of their poor decisions. Let every country sort out their own problems, it is not the UN's place to infringe on their ability to support themselves and subsequently learn an appreciated independence.

The Russian position on the enforcement of universal education is that it is essential for global economic development. Russia suggests an international standard for assessing the quality of primary education in developing nations. Russia believes that it's own system of primary education, that of integrating a countries poly-ethnic and multi-religious environments into its traditions of fundamental education so that all of a countries people may learn equally, should be a model to the developing nations of the world.

Despite its position as one of the world's largest suppliers of fossil fuels, specifically gas and oil, Russia supports a "safe and secure" nuclear power as a an alternative to CO2 emitting energy. Russia calls the world to embrace nuclear power as a stable and sustainable supply of energy for the future that will cut greenhouse gas emissions that are harmful to the world's climate. While Russia is in no way ready to give up its oil and gas trade, it recognizes that the world needs to focus on a greener and renewable energy for the future.

Preventions of global pandemics, especially that of H1N1, is of great concern to the country of Russia. Russia is not taking this matter lightly, hospitalizing all with symptoms of H1N1. Russia believes that to fight future pandemics the global effort must look at creating general living

conditions on a global level to fight infectious diseases effectively. Also, special attention should be focused on monitoring global infection and isolating areas of possible pandemic concern.

Along with many like-minded nations, the Federation of Russia is abhorred by the continued US embargo of the independent nation of Cuba. For 17 consecutive years, the UN passed resolutions calling for the US to end the embargo, but as yet they have not acceded. Russia has reminded the US government that the “voices of the international community” have been against it for some time, and encourages it to listen to its peers. In addition, Russia has offered a loan possibly in excess of \$300 million to Cuba to spend on Russian goods and services. Russia will greatly support another resolution calling for the US to end its embargo.

Russia is one of the few nations whom has empirically not supported action towards election fraud. Proven by the non-active stance regarding election frauds in Zimbabwe, Russia's stance is similar to most other stances of the Russian federation, that of non-action. It is not our burden or right to interfere with the elections of nations. This would be a direct affront on the sovereignty of the nations involved. Iran is a prime example of where Russia will continue to support the nation without taking any action against said nation because of the "corrupt" elections.

The Russian stance on UNAMID activity in Darfur is opposition to furthering action. Ending the conflict would NOT be in the best interest of the Russian Federation due to the economic repercussions it would entail. In addition to this, it is an unwinnable conflict.

Despite its vast quantities of fresh water, the Federation of Russia has numerous potable water problems in its heavily populated areas. Massive pollution has severely degraded the quality of water to many Russian cities, forcing St. Petersburg to contract with a French company to clean it up. Therefore, Russia is in favor of resolutions purposing to clean up contaminated water, especially if some of the focus is on Russia. However, it is ardently against resolutions planning to deprive the nation of its own sizable stores of water for distribution to west-Asian countries. The national resources of Russia are its own, but a cooperative effort to provide for better decontamination practices would be welcome.

The infant mortality rate in Russia has fallen in recent years. It is still higher than in Western countries, and Russia seeks to decrease this unfortunate measure. Russia supports research into more advanced medical implementation, but will not focus a large percentage of its resources to this problem. On the topic of humanitarian coordination, Russia believes that the UN is horribly ineffective, and wants to improve it to more efficiently use resources. However, Russia disagrees with the concept of humanitarian aid in that it leads to a depletion of national resources, and interfering with national sovereignty.

The Russian Federation is increasingly concerned by the encroaching foreign policy of the United States, and its overconfident allies. Our policy in regards to the United States is one with direct interests in international sovereignty, independence, and one of loose alliance.

In conclusion, what's good for Russia is good for the world, and we feel no compelling sense of obligation to infringe upon the rights of others. Consequently, evasion of unintended consequences by abstinence from overly-hasty action is the best possible stance the United Nations can take at this point, and Russia will do everything in its power to preserve the rights of less-fortunate nations.

Writing Resolutions

The MUN Resolution is a *proposal* by one or more nations *which attempts to solve a world problem*. The resolutions are objects of the debates at Model UN as they are written suggestions for addressing a specific problem or issue.

When proposing a resolution, you should first consult your Position Paper and research notes for a possible resolution topic. Remember, your resolution topic must be within the guidelines set by the Model UN sponsors. In your notes and Position Paper, you should address the established topics your country has a *strong position* on. You may find only one issue that fits the criteria or you may find several. However, once you determine the issue/issues within the established topics, you should take the following steps towards writing your resolution(s):

1. Identify the problem, its current effects and/or its possible effects.
2. Look for a solution to the problem that you have identified. This solution may have to be one of your own, as many countries do not spell out their solutions to various world problems. If you happen to find a solution proposed by your country, use it. If you do not find a solid solution to the problem, you should at least have a fairly good idea about the problem that you are tackling. Make sure that your solution does not violate your country's foreign policy.
3. Write your resolution, using formal phrasing and order that is suggested by your MUN sponsor.

There are three main parts to a draft resolution: the **heading**, the **preamble**, and the **operative section**.

The **heading** shows the committee and topic along with the resolution number. It also lists the draft resolution's sponsors and signatures. Each draft resolution is one long sentence with sections separated by commas and semicolons. The subject of the sentence is the body (e.g. General Assembly, etc...) making the statement. The preamble and operative sections then describe the current situation and actions that the committee will take.

The **preamble** states the reasons for which the committee is addressing the topic and highlights past international action on the issue.

The **operative clause** identifies the actions or recommendations made in the resolution. Each operative clause begins with a verb and ends with a semicolon. They should be organized in a logical progression, with each containing a single idea or proposal, and are always numbered. If a clause requires explanation, bulleted lists set off by letters or Roman numerals can also be used. After the last operative clause, the resolution ends in a period.

TIPS:

1. Create a detailed resolution and consider all of the factors involved if your resolution were to pass.
2. Try to cite facts whenever possible.
3. Be realistic. Do not create objectives for your resolution that cannot realistically be met and make sure that your council can actually take the action you are proposing.
4. Try to find multiple supporters of your resolution within your council.
5. Pre-ambulatory clauses are historical justifications for action. Use them to cite past resolutions, precedents, and statements about the purpose of action.
6. Operative clauses are policies that the resolution is designed to create. Use them to explain what the council will do to address the issue.

Explanation of Sample Resolution

(sample on next page)

1. Lines 1-8 are called the **heading** of the resolution. The date reflects the days of the MUN event – *not* the day you write the resolution.
2. Lines 10-14 are called the **preamble** of the resolution. This is where the actual problem and its consequences are identified. In the preamble section you must break down the problem into different areas and make each area a paragraph. Skip lines between paragraphs or **clauses** and start each clause with identifying words such as NOTICING, REALIZING, RECOGNIZING, NOTING, AWARE OF THE FACT, etc... When finished with the preamble, move on to the final part of the resolution, the **actuating clauses**.
3. Lines 16-30 are known as the **actuating clauses** because they spell out the solution being proposed to solve the problems listed in the preamble. In your research, you should have either found a solution to a problem proposed by your country or have obtained a general idea of how your country wishes to solve a particular problem. If you found an actual solution proposed by your country, prepare to put it into the actuating clauses by breaking the solution down, step by step, as done in the sample.

NOTES:

1. Put your name on the *back* of your paper prior to submission to your sponsor.
2. It is important that you follow this format. Pay particular attention to how the heading is formatted.
3. The numbering of lines is essential to speed up the debate in the sessions. It is much easier to find a word if the number of the line that contains the word is stated.

Sample Resolution Paper #1

1 Subject of Resolution: War Crimes
2
3 Submitted to: Political Council
4 Proposed by: Germany
5
6 Date: March 19 and 20, 1993
7

8 THE POLITICAL COUNCIL,
9

10 RECOGNIZING the extreme acts of violence committed against innocent people
11 in the nations of Iraq, Bosnia, and Herzegovina, and Somalia, and
12

13 REALIZING that an organization founded to protect the rights of all human
14 beings cannot allow atrocities in these nations to go unpunished, and
15

16 CONVINCED that an attempt to punish war criminals will deter future tyrants
17 from slaughtering and torturing helpless millions,
18

19 HEREBY,
20

- 21 1. Requests that trials be held before the International Court of Justice for
22 the leaders and war criminals in Iraq, Yugoslavia, and Somalia in
23 absentia.
24
- 25 2. A reward of ten million Deutsche Marks will be offered by the UN for
26 the capture of Saddam Hussein or Slobodan Milosevic. Another
27 reward of 2.5 million Deutsche Marks will be paid by the UN for each
28 of the Somalian warlords. A reward of 250,000 Deutsche Marks will
29 be paid by the UN for the capture of any other war criminals convicted
30 by the International Court of Justice in absentia.

Sample Resolution Paper #2

1 Subject of Resolution: Humanitarian Aid
 2
 3 Submitted to: Economic and Social Council I
 4 Proposed by: Switzerland
 5
 6 Date: March 2009
 7

8 THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,
 9

10 OBSERVING the staggering worldwide hunger crisis severely affecting a third of the
 11 planet, and
 12

13 REALIZING the role of current relief programs including the World Health
 14 Organization and the World Food Program in providing aid to those who have severe
 15 difficulty in obtaining the required amount of food,
 16

17 EMPHASIZING the dependence not fully relieved by the current system of
 18 distributing food,
 19

20 DESIRING a more permanent solution to the hunger crisis,
 21

22 HEREBY,
 23

- 24 1. Approves the creation of an in-depth research team with the purpose of:
 - 25 I. discovering current faults with the food distribution efforts of relief
 - 26 agencies;
 - 27 II. testing different possible food distribution methods to increase
 - 28 efficiency;
 - 29 III. devising a process by which a family can be made to be self-

- 30 sufficient;
- 31 IV. testing the process in various areas of the world;
- 32 2. Supports the development of an oversight committee to better coordinate
- 33 relief efforts of large organizations;
- 34 3. Trusts the committee to implement recommendations made by the
- 35 research team to improve relief efforts;
- 36 4. Further recommends that current and future relief organizations take
- 37 greater action in creating long-term self sufficiency for those they help.

The Basic Rules of Parliamentary Procedure **Adapted for the Topeka Model United Nations**

The following nine rules form the basis for the specific procedure that governs the proceedings and debate in councils.

1. The rights of the organization supersede the rights of individual delegates.

The Topeka MUN has the right to make its own rules which then must be observed by all delegates. Should a conflict arise between the rights of a member and right of the organization to do its business, the rights of the organization prevail.

Example: On the first day of council debate a resolution is being debated. The Chilean delegate has been recognized by the Chair and is speaking in favor of the resolution. The Nicaraguan delegate, who is opposed to the resolution, is calling out loud objections and engaging in argument with the speaker. The council President calls the member to order. The delegate continues his disruptive behavior, stating that as a delegate he has a “right” to speak. The President quietly states that the organization has the right to conduct business in an orderly manner which supersedes the member’s right to speak. The President further informs the delegate from Nicaragua that the Council has the right to eject any member who interferes with that right.

2. All members are equal and their rights are equal.

All delegates have the following rights:

- ~ to attend council;
- ~ to make motions and speak in debate;
- ~ to vote.

Example: The delegate from Nicaragua has the right to voice his dissatisfaction with the resolution. However, he must seek recognition of the President and be recognized (assigned the floor) before he can speak.

3. The Majority Rules.

This rule is basic to the democratic process. The minority has the right to be heard, but once a decision has been reached by a majority of the members present and voting, the minority must then respect and abide by the decision.

Example: A motion is made and adopted by a majority vote to suspend the orders of the day and skip Resolution 3. The German delegate – the author of Resolution 3 – objects stating his

resolution is important and relevant. The President rules his objection out of order reminding him that the majority of the members have voted to postpone.

4. Silence is consent.

Those members who do not vote to go along with the decision of the majority do so by their silence.

Example: The previous question is called and a resolution comes up for vote. Fifty delegates are in council. Twenty delegates abstain from voting, fourteen delegates vote in opposition to the resolution, and sixteen delegates vote in favor of the resolution. The resolution would pass because a majority means the majority of the members voting. (Sixteen out of thirty is a majority.) The abstentions do not count. In a council of fifty, sixteen delegates dictated the choice!

5. Two-thirds vote rule.

A two-thirds vote is necessary whenever you are limiting or taking away the rights of members or whenever you are changing something that has already been decided.

Example: The debate on Resolution 20 has lasted two hours. A delegate moves the previous question. (A motion to cut off debate and to vote immediately.) The motion is seconded. The president explains that the motion is not debatable and will require a two-thirds vote because it will cut off discussion. In other words, the group is taking away the right to debate.

6. One speaker at a time and one question at a time.

No motion is in order which does not directly relate to the question under consideration. In addition, once a member has been recognized, he has been granted “the floor” and another member may not interrupt him.

Example: A motion has been made and seconded to resume the orders of the day and debate on a resolution begins. The Australian delegate rises and moves that the orders of the day be suspended. The president rules the amendment out of order, explaining that the motion does not relate to the issue of the resolution currently in question. A gracious president might say, “Would you hold that motion, delegate? The question on the floor at this time relates to the resolution.” Has the delegate interrupted a speaker, the president would have firmly informed him that another member had the floor and request that he wait for recognition before speaking.

7. Debatable motions must receive full debate.

The presiding may not put a debatable motion to vote as long as members wish to debate it. Debate can only be suspended by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

Example: The motion is made and seconded that the orders of the day be suspended, and that debate should commence on Resolution 5. The president – who is a friend of the delegate who wrote Resolution 5 – immediately states the question and asks for the ayes and nos. A member rises to point of order, explaining that the motion is debatable and must receive full debate.

8. Once a question is decided, it is not in order to bring up the same motion or one essentially like it at the same time.

Such motions should be ruled out of order. (Note: There is a special class of motions which do bring a motion back to the group, called restorative motions.)

9. Personal remarks are always out of order.

The president must rule all personal remarks out of order. Debate must be directed to *motions* and not *motives*; *principles* and not *personalities*.

Example: The delegate from the US is making an authorship speech on his resolution for rebuilding Iraq. The delegate from Syria rises and states that, “The United States is just a bunch of spoiled yuppies who should police their own country and not the Middle East!” The president quickly rules the remark out of order, stating that debate must center on the motion and personal remarks about other delegates are not in order.

MUN Parliamentary Procedure Guide

Rule Order	Motion	Purpose	Second Required?	Debatable?	Required Vote	Interrupt Speaker?
1	Adjourn	To dismiss session	Yes	No	Majority	No
2	Recess	To take a break	Yes	Yes	Majority	No
3	Point of Order/Info	To clarify procedure	No	No	Chair	No
4	Appeal Decision of Chair	To reverse Chair's Decision	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
5	Method of Voting	To confirm vote	No	No	Chair	No
6	Motion to Suppress	To suppress a motion	No	No	2/3	Yes
7	Divide a Motion	To consider parts separately	Yes	Yes	Majority	No
8	Suspend the Rules	To suspend the rules	Yes	No	2/3	No
9	To Take from the Table	To consider tabled motions	Yes	No	Majority	No
10	To Lay on the Table	To defer action	Yes	No	Majority	No
11	To Call the Previous Question	To move to immediate vote	Yes	No	2/3	No
12	Limit/Extend Debate	To change rules of debate	Yes	Yes	2/3	No
13	To Refer to Another Body	To send resolution to another council	Yes	Yes	Majority	No
14	To Amend	To modify a motion	1/3	Yes	Majority	No
15	To Postpone Indefinitely	To kill a resolution	Yes	Yes	Majority	No
16	Main Motion	To introduce business	Yes	Yes	Majority	No

This is a partial list of motions in order of preference – motions with higher precedence are considered first.

Examples of how to word motions: (Please note that you say, “I move” NOT “I motion”)

#1 – “I move we adjourn.”

#2 – “I move we recess until...”

#3 – “Point of order.”

#14 – “I move to amend Resolution #4.”

NEVER SAY “I MOTION!”

Guidelines for Authorship Speeches

One way to build an authorship speech is by using the same format as a five-paragraph essay.

Introduction

1. Think of an introduction. Often, students use quotations from great leaders and thinkers as a way of introducing their speeches.

2. Add a simple thesis. Your thesis should be something like

“This resolution must be passed because it addresses _____, a serious problem in our world, and gives the UN a way to solve this problem.”

Body

3. Now, think of three main reasons that your resolution is a good one. These are your three main paragraphs of your essay/speech.

- Often, these are related to the ideas expressed in the “hereby” section.
- What will happen if we don’t pass this resolution? This can be the basis of a paragraph or two.

4. Next, think of supporting points or details that explain, enhance, go along with, add to, support, and expand upon your three main reasons. These are the supporting sentences for each paragraph.

- Here’s where a little reading and research will pay off, helping you to come up with details and information that support your main points.
- Talk to classmates, teachers, parents, etc., too, if you feel stuck about what to say.

Conclusion

5. This is the last paragraph of your speech/essay. Refer back to your thesis, restating it a little. Use another quote if you want to, to help wrap it up. Refer back briefly to the main ideas of your three paragraphs as a way of emphasizing what you’ve already said, driving it home to listeners.

When you’re actually speaking:

- You can read aloud, word-for-word from your essay. If you do this, practice a few times so your eyes aren't glued to the paper.
- You can "boil the essay down" down to an outline and speak from that. This is more effective. Again, you have to practice a few times.
- Make eye contact. Be a bit of an actor/actress.
- Go fairly slowly.
- Sound relaxed and enthusiastic.
- If you have time at the end (if no one has called "time" yet), remember to say, "I now yield the rest of my time for questions."

Words of Experience

"Don't take things personally." – L.G.

"Do your research beforehand so you are prepared to make intelligent arguments." – K.B.

"Avoid giving too many speeches in a row; this will limit what you can do the rest of the day because of precedence." – E.S.

"If you don't feel comfortable giving a speech, at least ask a question." – R.H.

"Don't be afraid to speak in any way, it's better to say something silly than nothing at all." – R.A.

"Stay involved, but above all else, have fun." – R.B.

"Judges frown on bringing Game Boys...don't use electronics." – B.B.

"Don't be stupid and don't waste our time." –A.E.

"Don't be 'that' guy." – S.S.

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