



Debating SA Incorporated

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Patron: His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AC CSC RANR, Governor of South Australia

2008 Topics and Speaking Times

Primary B

All debates are Prepared Debates. Speeches of 2 minutes; warning bell at 1 minute.

- Round 1 That pets are a nuisance.
- Round 2 That zoos should be banned.
- Round 3 That school uniforms should be abolished.
- Round 4 That good handwriting is important.
- Round 5 That there should be a bicycle license.

Primary A

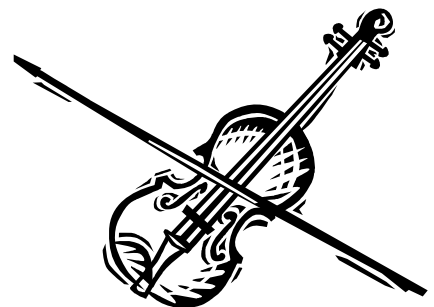
All debates are Prepared Debates. Speeches of 3 minutes; warning bell at 2 minutes.

- Round 1 That we should know how to spell.
- Round 2 That corporal punishment has a worthwhile place in schools.
- Round 3 That all children should play a musical instrument.
- Round 4 That schools should provide free lunch for students.
- Round 5 That childhood is a happy time.

Year 8

All debates are Prepared Debates. Speeches of 4 minutes; warning bell at 3 minutes.

- Round 1 That the SRC in schools is important.
- Round 2 That all tobacco products should be banned.
- Round 3 That the internet does more harm than good.
- Round 4 That cosmetic surgery should be prohibited.
- Round 5 That we should vote off reality television.



Year 9

Rounds 1 to 4 are Prepared Debates. Speeches of 5 minutes; warning bell at 4 minutes.

Round 1 That too much importance is placed on winning.

Round 2 That school attendance should be voluntary.

Round 3 That it pays to conform.

Round 4 That McDonald's is an evil empire.

Round 5 That the carrot is better than the stick.

One Card Debate. Speeches of 5 minutes; warning bell at 4 minutes.

Year 10

Rounds 1 to 3 are Prepared Debates. Speeches of 6 minutes; warning bell at 5 minutes

Round 1 That there should be more restrictions on P-plate drivers.

Round 2 That Antarctica should be left to the penguins.

Round 3 That Hilary for President just doesn't fit the 'Bill'.

Round 4 **Short Preparation format debate.**
Speeches of 5 minutes; warning bell at 4 minutes.

Round 5 That Australian immigration should be abolished.
One Card Debate. Speeches of 6 minutes; warning bell at 5 minutes.

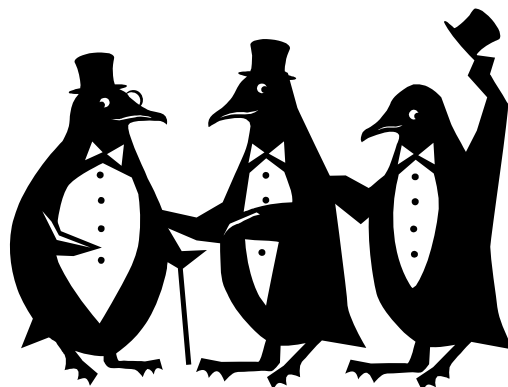
Senior

Round 1 That saying sorry to the Stolen Generations was the right thing to do.
Prepared Debate. Speeches of 8 minutes; warning bell at 7 minutes.

Round 2 That political correctness has gone too far.
One Card Debate. Speeches of 8 minutes; warning bell at 7 minutes.

Round 3 **Short Preparation format debate.**
Speeches of 6 minutes; warning bell at 5 minutes.

Round 4 Sistine Chapel Quodlibetical. See following pages for details.
Prepared Debate. Speeches of 8 minutes; warning bell at 7 minutes.



Open

- Round 1 That we should drop the bomb on Hiroshima.
Lateral Topic. Debaters must debate this topic within the scope of World War II pre-1945. Speeches of 8 minutes; warning bell at 7 minutes.
- Round 2 That protecting the public from terrorism should come before civil liberties.
Cross Examination Debate. Speeches of 6 minutes; warning bell at 5 minutes. 2 minute Cross Examination period.
- Round 3 That the light at the end of the tunnel is the oncoming train.
Point of Information Debate. Speeches of 10 minutes; warning bells at 2 and 9 minutes.
- Round 4 **Short Preparation format debate; Quodlibetical topic. Speeches of 6 minutes; warning bell at 5 minutes.**

Special Formats of Prepared Debates Used in 2008

Lateral Topic

A lateral topic is set in a specific time and/or place, or may have other restrictions or criteria imposed upon it. Debaters must debate the topic within those provided parameters.

If a topic is set in a specific time debaters may not introduce content as evidence which occurred after this time. For instance, if the topic is "That alcohol should be prohibited", in the context of the pre-United States Prohibition Era, a team cannot make reference to anything that resulted because of the introduction of prohibition, e.g. the Mafia. In the case of a time specific topic, the students will probably need to research the mores and attitudes of that time.

Quodlibetical Topic

There are a number of issues that can't be easily expressed in a one-line topic. Therefore you have been given a fictitious scenario, outlined by a few paragraphs, and a topic that is based on this scenario.

The following should be noted:

1. The first speaker should not attempt to define the topic word for word, but rather should define the issue(s) or dilemma(s) that the topic presents.
2. It is this issue or dilemma that should be debated in an attempt to prove whichever side of the topic, i.e. feel free to debate the particular issue generally, but be sure to link it back to the topic as this is what you want to argue for or against.
3. There is no need for the first speaker to read out the initial paragraphs as the Chairman will do this before announcing the topic, however, any speaker may refer to these paragraphs as part of his/her argument.
4. You are welcome and are encouraged to conduct further research on the issues presented but note that the scenario itself is often fictitious.

Senior Division Round 4 Topic: Sistine Chapel Quodlibetical



The ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Rome was painted by the great Renaissance artist Michelangelo in the sixteenth century and it is generally regarded as one of the greatest art works of the Western world.

It is discovered that the paint of the Sistine Chapel ceiling can be used to produce a drug which cures a type of Leukemia (cancer of the blood) which affects children under the age of 15 and is fatal. There are an estimated 50,000 children suffering from this disease at present in the world.

Although the paint can be synthesised in the laboratory, it would have to be aged for at least 200 years before it could be used to make the cure. Hence the only way the cure can be produced at present is by removing the paint from the Sistine Chapel ceiling, thus destroying the work. A decision must therefore be made as to whether or not the art work on the ceiling should be destroyed to make the cure.

Topic: "That the art work should be destroyed."