



Welcome to the
Lincoln-Douglas
Clinic!

LD Officers

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What is LD?

LD is a type of debate that focuses on the conflicting values of social and philosophical issues, for example, by examining questions of morality, justice, and democracy.

Debates concern themselves with deciding whether or not certain actions, or states of affairs, are good or bad, right or wrong, moral or immoral, etc.

- Logic & evidence-based
- More rewarding and self-evaluating
- 1 v. 1
- New topic every two tournaments

Framework

Why are we debating?

Lincoln-Douglas is a value debate. Each debate speech will center on a value that you choose as the cornerstone of your position.

After stating your value premise, you will name the criterion to achieve the value. The value and value criterion are the way you choose to see your resolution and through which scope you view the issue. Your arguments revolve around a certain value chosen and your case will ultimately state that by ruling on *AFF or NEG* you will ultimately achieve that.

Framework

Value:

- What value does the resolution care about? What is the goal of the resolution?
- Your position should uphold or protect some higher principle (e.g. life, justice, etc.) – this is your Core Value
- Universality of core values is essential e.g. morality, justice, equality

Value Criterion:

- The standard by which your value can be measure
- Your criterion only needs to uphold your value and it relates to all your contentions.

Contentions

- Like body paragraphs in a paper
- Each contention is a separate point under an overarching idea.
- Research + evidence is necessary!
- Typically (but not always!) 3 contentions for affirmative & 2 contentions for negative.

Rules

- Most of your research should be done outside of our practices! We will be focusing on the technical aspects of debate, brainstorming case contentions, and rebuttal sessions during practice.
- As your team leaders we are a resource for you to use, so please do! If you ever have questions, either email us or text us, and we'll do what we can to help! If there are issues, you need to come to us at least a week ahead. Don't leave this to the last minute! We have a mentorship program for this year, so you'll get more than enough support to do well :)
- Attendance is mandatory! This year we are emphasizing attendance to practice (unless there is a specific reason - we will need an email/text at least 24 hours before). We are only allowing three absences per quarter. Attendance is taken.

Rules

- Cases, throughout the year, MUST be turned in on time to Schoology 2 weeks before the tournament date. Cases must be completed by this date otherwise you will not be able to compete at the tournament.
- In order to have access to the team rebuttals document, you must turn in 2 of your own rebuttals first. (More on this in coming weeks).
- Your parents will have to judge tournaments! With virtual tournaments there will be a need for more parent judges. If you cannot provide a judge, you will not go to a tournament! (October 3rd - Parent Judge Training)
- **Please be enthusiastic and ready to debate! Remember, you're here to have fun debating!**

Virtual Practices

Types of practices:

- 1) Learning about debate (mainly lectures + questions)
- 2) Brainstorm sessions (discussions about new debate topics)
- 3) Rebuttal sessions (discussions about rebuttals for the topic)
- 4) Practice debates (debating your case with a judge and shadowers)

Please note that it is **heavily encouraged** to keep cameras on for all practices and mute microphones unless asked to speak! If you have any technological issues, please email us and we can help figure out a solution!

Round Structure

Neg case will be shorter than Aff. You have 6 min. for the Aff case, but only 3-4 min for Neg to include a rebuttal in the 7 min given. (Total: 4 min prep time)

Affirmative Constructive 6 min (AC)

Cross-Examination 3 min

(2 min prep time for Neg)

Negative Constructive/First Rebuttal 7 min (NC/1NR)

Cross-Examination 3 min

(2 min prep time for Aff)

First Affirmative Rebuttal 4 min (1AR)

(2 min prep time for Neg)

Second Negative Rebuttal 6 min (2NR)

(2 min prep time for Aff)

Second Affirmative Rebuttal 3 min (2AR)



Sample Case!

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XgTRyXcMF200zJu6FBXwNgV9TwPvsTCbIA1Sm2MVpk/edit?usp=sharing>



Resolution (Sept-Oct Topic)

Resolved: In a democracy, voting ought to be compulsory.

Next Steps

- 1) Register for the Lincoln-Douglas event!
 - a) Google "Rock Ridge Debate" and click on the first link
 - b) Read the "Debate Registration Materials" and sign up with the registration form
 - i) Due September 30th @ 5 pm
- 2) First practice on Tuesday, September 22nd!

Practice Debate

Resolved: People should not eat meat.

Create an argument that is either for or against this resolution. Take some time to organize your argument as you will have to deliver a short speech.

Questions?