



BRITISH PARLIAMENTARY

About the format

It is the most used format in the international and national debate competitions and it is dedicated especially to the universities students.

The format structure

This format consists of 4 teams, each team has 2 members.

The 1st and the 2nd team are : the opening government and the closing government, which by default should support the motion. The 3rd and the 4th team are the opening opposition and the closing opposition, which by default should go against the motion.

The opening government consists of the **prime minister** and his **deputy**, and the closing government consists of the **member** and the **whip**. In the other hand the opening opposition consists of the **leader** and his **deputy**, and the closing opposition consists of the **member** and the **whip**.

Speakers roles & timing

Speaker	Time	Role
Prime minister	7min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Defining the motion. - Developing the case for the 1st government. - Presenting and explaining the main arguments. - Summarizing the speech.
Leader of opposition	7min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accepting or refusing the definition of the motion. - Refuting the prime minister arguments. - Building the case for the 1st opposition. - Presenting and explaining the main arguments. - Summarizing the speech.
Deputy prime minister	7min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refuting the 1st opposition arguments. - Rebuilding the case for the 1st government. - Possibility of adding new arguments. - Summarizing the speech.
Deputy leader of opposition	7min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refuting the 1st government arguments. - Rebuilding the case for the 1st opposition. - Possibility of adding new arguments. - Summarizing the speech.
Member of the government	7min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refuting the 1st opposition arguments. - Supporting the 1st government orientation. - Providing the 2nd government new arguments. - Summarizing the speech.
Member of the opposition	7min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refuting the 1st government arguments. - Supporting the 1st opposition orientation. - Refuting the 2nd government arguments. - Providing the 2nd opposition new arguments. - Summarizing the speech.
Government whip	7min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summarizing the entire debate from the point of view of the government. - Enumerating the government arguments. - Talking about the opposition contradictions. - Not allowed to provide new arguments.
Opposition whip	7min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summarizing the entire debate from the point of view of the opposition. - Enumerating the opposition arguments. - Talking about the government contradictions. - Not allowed to provide new arguments.

Preparation

Before the debate starts each 1 of the 4 team have 20 min to prepare separately without communicating with the other teams.

Points of information

During a debater speech , after the 1st minute and before the last minute, every debater from the opposite side has the right to ask for a point of information for 15 sec.

The speaker has the right to take it or not to.

If a point of information is rejected the asker should wait 15 sec before asking again.

Knifing

If the closing team contradict the opening team in the same side of the debate we call this situation knifing and it can cause the lose of the closing team.