

Atlanta Urban Debate League
Argumentative Speech Bowl – Resource Packet
Fall 2021 - Final Round

As a reminder, students and coaches should confirm student intent to participate in the final round of competition through completing this [form](#) by **November 19, 2021**. Coaches and participants should communicate errors on the submission entry form via email to candice.marie.williams@emory.edu.

The final round of the Argumentative Speech Bowl will be hosted LIVE, via a Zoom webinar, on **Thursday, December 2, 2021 from 4:30-6:00PM**.

Final Round Format

- The Fall 2021 Argumentative Speech Bowl will only feature speakers from the **middle school division**.
- In **one (1) speech** that is **one (1) to three (3) minutes in length**, students will be responsible for contextualizing the problem (inherency), clearly articulating the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed policy action.
 - The strongest speeches will preempt reasonable objections the audience might have to the policy action.
 - In the development of their speeches, students may use evidence provided by the AUDL but are strongly encouraged to do additional topic research.
 - A designated professional staff member will hold up a yellow card when there is one (1) minute of speech time remaining. When **three and a half (3:30) minutes** of speaking time has expired, the host will interrupt the speaker to conclude the end of speech time.
- There will be a **one (1) minute cross examination** where students will answer **one (1) question** posed by judges about their speech.
- The order of student speeches will be chosen randomly and will be announced prior to the start of the event.
- Judges will rank final round contestants using the Updated – ASB – Speech Rubric provided.

Rubric – A copy of the rubric provided to judges for speech evaluation will be shared with all competitors.

Feedback and Suggestions

Based on feedback from judges from the first round of competition, students are encouraged to be mindful of the following:

- Students should remember that argumentative or persuasive speeches are somewhat different from speeches given in a policy debate round in terms of pace and presentation. Students should not assume that their audience has any familiarity with formal policy debate.
- Students are encouraged to focus on presentation as well as content, making sure to occasionally look up at the audience as they are speaking.
- Students should assume that the audience has a minimal understanding of the problem their plan seeks to address and the policy/plan they are proposing. Students are responsible for persuading the judges and audience that their plan is a good idea.
- Students should use the introduction of their speeches to draw in the audience and to preview the outline of their speech. While students are welcome to order their speech in any manner they deem appropriate, a sample structure is:
 - Introduction
 - Opening Line – Includes a hook or information that encourages the audience to keep listening.
 - Explanation of the problem or reason the plan is necessary.
 - Policy
 - Articulation of the policy – It should be easy for the judges and audience to discern the proposed policy and the benefits and drawbacks to it. An example would be, “I _____ would propose that the United States federal government should...”
 - Explain benefits or advantages of the proposed policy action
 - Benefit 1
 - Benefit 2
 - Benefit 3
 - Conclusion – Should adequately conclude the speech. Strong conclusions usually make some reference to the themes introduced at the beginning of the speech.
- Students should make sure to explicitly refer to sources when using them to support their speech. An example is, “In (article name), (name of author) suggests that...”

Topic: Net Neutrality

The United States Federal Government should continue its current policy of net neutrality as proposed by the Biden Administration.

Resources that affirm the proposed policy.

1. <https://chicagopolicyreview.org/2020/02/19/what-is-the-net-benefit-of-net-neutrality/>
 - This resource has helpful analogies, such as one to mail, that breaks down the potential economic effects of adopting net neutrality.
 - This resource also has statistics that provide a quantification of the potential benefits.
2. <https://www.cnet.com/home/internet/bidens-call-to-restore-net-neutrality-what-you-should-know/>

- Summarizes Biden's current plans with net neutrality and past actions made in 2015
- Points out benefits, but includes some of the concerns
- 3. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/14/technology/net-neutrality-rules.html?mc=aud_dev&ad-keywords=auddevgate&gclid=CjwKCAjwtfqKBhBoEiwAZuesiCVj-MX-mYxgCjYKSVO3rfSf512i-281yamRC-EV4acEBbyio-VkdRoCKSYQAvD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds
 - Good overview of 2017 repeal of net neutrality laws and reasons why it's good
 - Law protected against paid prioritization, blocking and throttling. This can impact internet bundling, widen disparities for people who can't pay, and small business who use the internet as their main platform
- 4. <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2021/07/16/home-broadband-adoption-computer-ownership-vary-by-race-ethnicity-in-the-u-s/>
 - Gives good data points about the differences in access between racial groups
 - Compares access to a laptop, smartphone, home broadband, tablet, and all 4 in a survey
 - Results show broadband with some of the biggest disparities (And having all 4)
- 5. <https://www.politico.com/newsletters/morning-tech/2021/09/14/california-net-neutrality-clash-heads-to-court-797595>
 - Help resolve the conflict has over California's net neutrality law made after Trump decreased FCC's authority
 - Need plan to give States like Vermont and Rhode Island who are looking to Cali to model from

Resources that **oppose** the proposed policy.

<https://www.mageplaza.com/blog/pros-and-cons-net-neutrality.html>

1. <https://www.theverge.com/2017/12/14/16777626/ajit-pai-net-neutrality-speech>
 - a. Although the opening paragraphs are pro net-neutrality, there is a speech from the ex FCC chair, Ajit Pai, that goes through several arguments against net-neutrality
 - b. He argues that getting rid of net neutrality will allow for more competition among internet providers, which is particularly important for small ISPs
2. <https://www.cnn.com/2021/01/26/net-neutrality-foe-and-departed-fcc-chairman-ajit-pai-stands-by-repeal.html>
 - a. This article talks about several reasons why Pai is against net neutrality like how the Communications Act of 1934, which was made decades before the internet was invented, should not be used to regulate the internet
 - b. Provides a good overview of many of the sources on this side, but does not provide links to the studies cited
3. <https://www.americanactionforum.org/insight/the-problematic-potential-return-of-net-neutrality/>
 - a. This article talks about what actually happened to internet service after net neutrality was repealed in 2017

- b. Related sources are hyperlinked throughout the article, which is really helpful if the students want further readings
- 4. <https://financialpost.com/opinion/the-net-neutrality-fanatics-were-wrong>
 - a. An opinion piece that talks about how the repeal of net neutrality did not result in slower internet speeds
 - b. Also talks a lot about how the internet is self-regulating and that any legislation trying to regulate it is pointless
 - c. Provides a comparison to Canada which imposed strict net neutrality laws when the US decided to repeal Obama's net neutrality
- 5. <https://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/article/the-end-of-net-neutrality/>
 - a. This is a good article that explores both sides of the debate
 - b. There are some new con arguments such as net neutrality does not go far enough because it only regulates "broadband access providers" but does not include other large companies and websites like Facebook
 - c. Has more articles linked under "additional readings" at the bottom