

MUN Hooks and Sayings

Instructions for this Document: “Congratulations on being added to the MUN sayings document. This document is a way to find creative sayings and lines for Model United Nations speeches which people love. The only tax for being added to this document is that you will have to add to it as well. Please comment any hooks or additional information that you wish to add. Whoever adds the best hooks/openings by the end of the year will get a prize. Thanks, and good luck at your next MUN competition.”

- Undersecretary Gen Aiden Mathews

Opening speech of a chair:

More than ever before in human history, we share a common destiny. We can master it only if we face it together. And that, my friends, is why we have the United Nations. - Kofi Annan –

Opening speech of UNESCO and Human rights council:

- It has been said that knowledge is power. We need to strengthen education systems so that young people can benefit from cultural diversity, and not be victimized by those who exploit differences. - Ban Ki-moon –
- Education is the most powerful weapon with which you can change the world. - Nelson Mandela-
- Education remains the key to both economic and political empowerment. - Barbara Jordan
- What matters is the people. We must ensure that the United Nations is supported by the people and that it reflects the will of the people.
-- Anwarul Karim Chowdhur
- The nations must be organized internationally and induced to enter into partnership, subordinating in some measure national sovereignty to worldwide institutions and obligations.
-- Arthur Henderson

- The reality is that international institutions like the UN can only be as effective as its members allow it to be.
-- Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- UNESCO is the conscience of the United Nations.
-- Federico Mayor Zaragoza
- The United Nations is our world's greatest mechanism for making peace
-- Gillian Sorensen
- Of course the UN brings in a lot of moral authority.
-- Lakhdar Brahimi
- If the United Nations is to survive, those who represent it must bolster it; those who advocate it must submit to it; and those who believe in it must fight for it.
-- Norman Cousins

When the speaker knows that the resolution he seeks will fail:

If voting changed anything, they'd make it illegal – Emma Goldman –

When a delegate keeps standing for his country even though the action of the country is wrong:

You're not to be so blind with patriotism that you can't face reality. Wrong is wrong, no matter who does it or says it - Malcolm X –

When speaking about economics (e.g. ECOSOC) and a delegate speak of your country's debt:

We don't have a trillion-dollar debt because we haven't taxed enough; we have a trillion-dollar debt because we spend too much. - Ronald Reagan –

In ECOSOC speech:

It is economic power that determines political power, and governments become the political functionaries of economic power. - Jose Saramago -

"Philanthropy is about using the resources you have at your fingertips to improve the world."
-MelindaGates

When representing China and a capitalist country (e.g. USA) speaks that you have no freedom:

Political Freedom without economic equality is pretence, a fraud, a lie; and the workers want no lying. - Mikhail Bakunin –

“The champions of socialism call themselves progressives, but they recommend a system which is characterized by rigid observance of routine and by a resistance to every kind of improvement. They call themselves liberals, but they are intent upon abolishing liberty. They call themselves democrats, but they yearn for dictatorship. They call themselves revolutionaries, but they want to make the government omnipotent. They promise the blessings of the Garden of Eden, but they plan to transform the world into a gigantic post office. Every man but one a subordinate clerk in a bureau. What an alluring utopia! What a noble cause to fight!”- Capitalist

Arnav Hooks:

In wine there is wisdom, In beer there is strength, and in water there is.... bacteria

In human rights council when speaking about equality:

The only stable state is the one in which all men are equal before the law. – Aristotle –

When your country is breaking the law and you want to defend that:

If we desire respect for the law, we must first make the law respectable. - Louis D. Brandeis –

When you are speaking about a country with no-democracy or freedom of speech:

In a society run by terror, no statements whatsoever can be taken seriously. - Milan Kundera –

When you are making fun of France or against its policy:

How can you govern a country which has 246 varieties of cheese?- Charles de Gaulle –

When you are representing USA:

To live under the American Constitution is the greatest political privilege that was ever accorded to the human race. - Calvin Coolidge-

Famous Truman sayings when approaching the original United Nations:

1. “The world has experienced a revival of an old faith in the everlasting moral force of justice. At no time in history has there been a more important Conference, or a more necessary meeting, than this one in San Francisco, which you are opening today.”

2. “You members of this Conference are to be the architects of the better world. In your hands rests our future.”

3. “We fully realize today that victory in war requires a mighty united effort. Certainly, victory in peace calls for, and must receive, an equal effort. Man has learned long ago, that it is impossible to live unto himself. This same basic principle applies today to nations. We were not isolated during the war. We dare not now become isolated in peace.”

4. “All will concede that in order to have good neighbors, we must also be good neighbors. That applies in every field of human endeavor.”

5. “If we do not want to die together in war, we must learn to live together in peace.”

6. “With firm faith in our hearts, to sustain us along the hard road to victory, we will find our way to a secure peace, for the ultimate benefit of all humanity.”

7. “We must build a new world – a far better world – one in which the eternal dignity of man is respected.”

When you are against USA:

A typical vice of American politics is the avoidance of saying anything real on real issues. - Theodore Roosevelt -

When the country against you demands that nothing would change – When you are asking for a change in the resolution and it is rejected – When your resolution means change and it fails – When a country you are against currently ruling a dispute territory and they say things should stay as it is:

Status quo, you know, is Latin for 'the mess we're in'. - Ronald Reagan-

Opening speech in WHO

Healthy citizens are the greatest asset any country can have. - Winston Churchill-

“WHO is gonna save the world, the W, H, O”

Knock knock, who's there? Yes, the WHO is here...

When USA is REALLY pissing you off and you need to roast them:

Harry Truman, a former US president, once said, "if you can't convince them, confuse them." Clearly, these delegates are following in Truman's illustrious footsteps.

When your country (e.g. China – Iran – Saudi Arabic...etc) is against freedom (e.g. freedom of speech) in human rights council:

No amount of political freedom will satisfy the hungry masses. - Vladimir Lenin -

Quotes from United Nations officials:

1. Improving governance, and improving confidence between governments and people, is essential. – António Guterres, UN Secretary-General
1. Without trust, we cannot face the difficult challenges in our world. – António Guterres, UN Secretary-General
2. In a world in which all problems are global, there is no way countries can handle issues by themselves; we need global responses. – António Guterres, UN Secretary-General
3. Climate change is already impacting the way we live, so it's not for our grandchildren; it's for us. – José Graziano da Silva, FAO Director-General
4. We have to tackle immediate humanitarian needs and at the same time invest in development. – Jim Yong Kim, World Bank Group President
5. I think the magnitude of the shared problems we have does require us to reinvigorate multilateral institutions. – Helen Clark, UNDP Administrator
6. The ultimate renewable energy is human ingenuity. – Irina Bokova, UNESCO Director-General
7. Climate change is an issue that is at the very center of development. – Patricia Espinosa, UNFCCC Executive Director
8. The SDGs are complex; lots of integration across government will be required to deliver the SDGs. – Ibrahim Thiaw, IUNEP Deputy Executive Director
9. A gradual, transparent approach to nuclear energy is important to promote social acceptance. – Yukiya Amano, IAEA Director
10. When it comes to education, "business as usual" is not an option. – Irina Bokova, UNESCO Director-General
11. The 2030 Agenda boldly states that there can be no sustainable development without peace, and no peace without sustainable development. – Helen Clark, UNDP Administrator
12. We need to change the whole food system; we need to change the way we produce food, and the way we eat it. – José Graziano da Silva, FAO Director-General
13. Education is directly linked to economic growth and prosperity, and is critical to promoting peace. – Jim Yong Kim, World Bank Group President

14. Improving governance, and improving confidence between governments and people, is essential. – António Guterres, UN Secretary-General

Puns and Miscellaneous sayings(Written and Approved by Aiden):

2. "This resolution is like a hedgehog, it has many points, but serves almost no use as an argument."
3. "War, ladies and gentlemen, (enter the accent) they may take our lives, but they will never take our freedom!"
4. ""Behind the United Nations, there is an idea, honorable delegates, and this idea is bulletproof""
5. "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" - Martin Luther King Jr
6. "Fighting war with fire is like fighting fire with fire - it never works"- a follow up can be that fighting war with money is like adding gasoline to fire.
7. "Good education is not a privilege but a right that every human deserves. By joining our bloc, you are building the knowledge, skills and relationships needed to help build a better global future in your regions."
8. **"I like tea, sweet tea, green tea, but you know what my favorite t is, SOVEREIGNTY" or Liberty**
9. Great Intro: "1 universe, 8 planets, 7 seas, 7 continents, 809 islands, 196 countries, and ..." Your topic
10. "Veni. Vidi. Vici. I came. I saw. I conquered-Julius Caesar"
11. "That paper reminded me of a donut. It was sweet on the outside, but I could see a gaping hole in the middle."
12. "That paper is like swiss cheese, it is full of holes"
13. **"I've seen big ships. I've seen small ships. But, the thing I've seen most today was partnerships."**
14. "It's time for change." Points to watch, then drops change
15. Now this is something to remember, "When a man comes up to you on the street, what does he ask for, "CHANGE! WE NEED CHANGE DELEGATES!!"
16. <problem> is like a chalupa. If we let it sit, it'll get tough and hard to chew through. This is exactly what we are doing to <problem>. We must not sit idly by and wait till it gets more difficult, we must bite while it's hot!
17. This problem is like a broken pencil, it is pointless.
18. "This Conflicts are like Kim SUM: if you leave them, they get soggy and disgusting."
19. "When the power of love overcomes the love for power, only then will the world know peace." -Jimi Hendrix

20. "We are not developing nations, we are not developed nations, we are the United Nations." -Anonymous
21. "This is not a good resolution. It is a great resolution."
22. "WHO is going to solve this issue? The W H O!"
23. "They call themselves peacekeepers but when you show them peace, what do they do, they shy away. They call themselves diplomats, but when you show them diplomacy, what do they do, they shy away. They call themselves Africans, but when you show them a solution to help all of Africa. They SHY away."
24. "It's about drive, it's about power, we stay hungry, we devour."
25. Maya recommended:
 - a.

Best Quotes of All Time

"Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier."

-Mother Teresa

"When you reach the end of your rope, tie a knot in it and hang on." *-Franklin D.*

Roosevelt

"Always remember that you are absolutely unique. Just like everyone else." *-Margaret*

Mead

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant." *-Robert*

Louis Stevenson

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." *-Eleanor*

Roosevelt

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn." *-Benjamin*

Franklin

"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart." *-Helen Keller*

"It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light." *-Aristotle*

"Whoever is happy will make others happy too." *-Anne Frank*

"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." *-Ralph Waldo Emerson*

6. "Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn." *-Benjamin Franklin*

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-Ralph Waldo Emerson

Famous Quotes About Life

"You will face many defeats in life, but never let yourself be defeated." -*Maya Angelou*

"The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

-*Nelson Mandela*

"In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."

-*Abraham Lincoln*

"Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game." -*Babe Ruth*

"Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all." -*Helen Keller*

"Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up." -*Thomas A. Edison*

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose." -*Dr. Seuss*

1. "If life were predictable it would cease to be life and be without flavor." -*Eleanor Roosevelt*

2. "In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years." -*Abraham Lincoln*

3. "Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood." -*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

4. "You will face many defeats in life, but never let yourself be defeated." -*Maya Angelou*

5. "Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game." -*Babe Ruth*

6. "Life is never fair, and perhaps it is a good thing for most of us that it is not." -*Oscar Wilde*

7. "The only impossible journey is the one you never begin." -*Tony Robbins*

8. "In this life we cannot do great things. We can only do small things with great love." -*Mother Teresa*

9. "Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile." -*Albert Einstein*

10. "The purpose of our lives is to be happy." -*Dalai Lama*

11. "Life is what happens when you're busy making other plans." -*John Lennon*

12. "You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough." -*Mae West*

13. "Live in the sunshine, swim the sea, drink the wild air." -*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

14. "Go confidently in the direction of your dreams! Live the life you've imagined." -*Henry David Thoreau*
15. "The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall." -*Nelson Mandela*
16. "Life is really simple, but we insist on making it complicated." -*Confucius*
17. "May you live all the days of your life." -*Jonathan Swift*
18. "Life itself is the most wonderful fairy tale." -*Hans Christian Andersen*
19. "Do not let making a living prevent you from making a life." -*John Wooden*
20. "Life is ours to be spent, not to be saved." -*D. H. Lawrence*
21. "Keep smiling, because life is a beautiful thing and there's so much to smile about." -*Marilyn Monroe*
22. "Life is a long lesson in humility." -*James M. Barrie*
23. "In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on." -*Robert Frost*
24. "Love the life you live. Live the life you love." -*Bob Marley*
25. "Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all." -*Helen Keller*
26. "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose." -*Dr. Seuss*
27. "Life is made of ever so many partings welded together." -*Charles Dickens*
28. "Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma -- which is living with the results of other people's thinking." -*Steve Jobs*
29. "Life is trying things to see if they work." -*Ray Bradbury*
30. "Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up." -*Thomas A. Edison*

"Success is not final; failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts."

-*Winston S. Churchill*

"Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it." -*Henry David*

Thoreau

"The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing." -*Walt Disney*

"If you really look closely, most overnight successes took a long time." -*Steve Jobs*

"The secret of success is to do the common thing uncommonly well." -*John D.*

Rockefeller Jr.

"I find that the harder I work, the more luck I seem to have." -*Thomas Jefferson*

"The real test is not whether you avoid this failure, because you won't. It's whether you let it harden or shame you into inaction, or whether you learn from it; whether you choose to persevere." -*Barack Obama*

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4. "The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing." -*Walt Disney*
5. "Don't be distracted by criticism. Remember -- the only taste of success some people get is to take a bite out of you." -*Zig Ziglar*
6. "Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it." -*Henry David Thoreau*
7. "I never dreamed about success, I worked for it." -*Estee Lauder*
8. "Success seems to be connected with action. Successful people keep moving. They make mistakes but they don't quit." -*Conrad Hilton*
9. "There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure." -*Colin Powell*
10. "The real test is not whether you avoid this failure, because you won't. It's whether you let it harden or shame you into inaction, or whether you learn from it; whether you choose to persevere." -*Barack Obama*

11. "The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today." -*Franklin D. Roosevelt*
12. "It is better to fail in originality than to succeed in imitation." -*Herman Melville*
13. "Successful people do what unsuccessful people are not willing to do. Don't wish it were easier; wish you were better." -*Jim Rohn*
14. "The road to success and the road to failure are almost exactly the same." -*Colin R. Davis*
15. "I failed my way to success." -*Thomas Edison*
16. "If you set your goals ridiculously high and it's a failure, you will fail above everyone else's success." -*James Cameron*
17. "If you really look closely, most overnight successes took a long time." -*Steve Jobs*
18. "A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him." -*David Brinkley*
19. "Things work out best for those who make the best of how things work out." -*John Wooden*
20. "Try not to become a man of success. Rather become a man of value." -*Albert Einstein*
21. "Don't be afraid to give up the good to go for the great." -*John D. Rockefeller*
22. "Always bear in mind that your own resolution to success is more important than any other one thing." -*Abraham Lincoln*
23. "Success is walking from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm." -*Winston Churchill*
24. "You know you are on the road to success if you would do your job and not be paid for it." -*Oprah Winfrey*
25. "If you want to achieve excellence, you can get there today. As of this second, quit doing less-than-excellent work." -*Thomas J. Watson*
26. "If you genuinely want something, don't wait for it -- teach yourself to be impatient." -*Gurbaksh Chahal*
27. "The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary." -*Vidal Sassoon*
28. "If you are not willing to risk the usual, you will have to settle for the ordinary." -*Jim Rohn*

29. "Before anything else, preparation is the key to success." -*Alexander Graham Bell*

30. "People who succeed have momentum. The more they succeed, the more they want to succeed and the more they find a way to succeed. Similarly, when someone is failing, the tendency is to get on a downward spiral that can even become a self-fulfilling prophecy." -*Tony Robbins*

31. "Do not judge me by my successes, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again." -*Nelson Mandela*

31. "Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin." -*Mother Teresa*

Most Famous Quotes

"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take." -*Wayne Gretzky*

"Whether you think you can or you think you can't, you're right." -*Henry Ford*

"I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear."
-*Rosa Parks*

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples." -*Mother Teresa*

"Nothing is impossible, the word itself says, 'I'm possible!'" -*Audrey Hepburn*

"The question isn't who is going to let me; it's who is going to stop me." -*Ayn Rand*

"The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be." -*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

1. "Believe you can and you're halfway there." -*Theodore Roosevelt*

2. "The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be." -*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

3. "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." -*Maya Angelou*

4. "The question isn't who is going to let me; it's who is going to stop me." -*Ayn Rand*

5. "Winning isn't everything, but wanting to win is." -*Vince Lombardi*

6. "Whether you think you can or you think you can't, you're right." -*Henry Ford*

7. "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take." -*Wayne Gretzky*
8. "I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples." -*Mother Teresa*
9. "You become what you believe." -*Oprah Winfrey*
10. "The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity." -*Amelia Earhart*
11. "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." -*Anne Frank*
12. "An unexamined life is not worth living." -*Socrates*
13. "Everything you've ever wanted is on the other side of fear." -*George Addair*
14. "Dream big and dare to fail." -*Norman Vaughan*
15. "You may be disappointed if you fail, but you are doomed if you don't try." -*Beverly Sills*
16. "Life is 10% what happens to me and 90% of how I react to it." -*Charles Swindoll*
17. "Nothing is impossible, the word itself says, 'I'm possible!'" -*Audrey Hepburn*
18. "It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop." -*Confucius*
19. "When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it." -*Henry Ford*
20. "Too many of us are not living our dreams because we are living our fears." -*Les Brown*
21. "I have learned over the years that when one's mind is made up, this diminishes fear." -*Rosa Parks*
22. "I didn't fail the test. I just found 100 ways to do it wrong." -*Benjamin Franklin*
23. "If you're offered a seat on a rocket ship, don't ask what seat! Just get on." -*Sheryl Sandberg*
24. "I attribute my success to this: I never gave or took any excuse." -*Florence Nightingale*
25. "I would rather die of passion than of boredom." -*Vincent van Gogh*

26. "If you look at what you have in life, you'll always have more. If you look at what you don't have in life, you'll never have enough." -*Oprah Winfrey*

27. "Dreaming, after all, is a form of planning." -*Gloria Steinem*

28. "Whatever the mind of man can conceive and believe, it can achieve." -*Napoleon Hill*

29. "First, have a definite, clear practical ideal; a goal, an objective. Second, have the necessary means to achieve your ends; wisdom, money, materials, and methods. Third, adjust all your means to that end." -*Aristotle*

30. "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So, throw off the bowlines, sail away from safe harbor, catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore, Dream, Discover." -*Mark Twain*

31. "Black Tea, Green Tea, Chai Tea, but more importantly, and my favorite, UNITY" - UK
BOSMUN XX WHO