

## Speech Outlines (Topic 1: Robots)

**DESCRIPTION:**

Please watch the required “explainer” videos to remind us how to write T-Charts to organize our evidence. After that we write one Introduction (per side) and two arguments (per side). After writing arguments, we need to write rebuttals too. As practice we write rebuttals against our own arguments.

[Training Articles & Videos] “WeTransfer” link (expires July 2024): <https://we.tl/t-z1mcCRCPTI>

[Topic Research Articles & Videos] “WeTransfer” link (expires July 2024): <https://we.tl/t-lkIOiSubDA>

**ANIMATED “EXPLAINER” VIDEOS (REQUIRED):**

[Video-02] Writing “T-Charts” in Debate, [3 min] <a href="https://vimeo.com/845848743/5b034dea1a">https://vimeo.com/845848743/5b034dea1a</a>	[Video-6] Making “Speeches” in Debate, [2 min] <a href="https://vimeo.com/845858677/c1c190caa6">https://vimeo.com/845858677/c1c190caa6</a>
[Video-6a] Writing “Introductions” in Debate [2 min] <a href="https://vimeo.com/845885641/51a70d2c54">https://vimeo.com/845885641/51a70d2c54</a>	[Video-7] Making “Rebuttals” in Debate, [2 min] <a href="https://vimeo.com/845862738/a7b91a7c6a">https://vimeo.com/845862738/a7b91a7c6a</a>
[Video-6b] Writing “Arguments” in Debate, [5 min] <a href="https://vimeo.com/845886564/9b8213e12c">https://vimeo.com/845886564/9b8213e12c</a>	[Video-8] Making “Rejoinders” in Debate, [4 min] <a href="https://vimeo.com/845862738/a7b91a7c6a">https://vimeo.com/845862738/a7b91a7c6a</a>
[Video-4] Modes of “Persuasion,” [5 min] <a href="https://vimeo.com/845886564/9b8213e12c">https://vimeo.com/845886564/9b8213e12c</a>	[Video-9] Making “Voting Issues” in Debate, [2 min] <a href="https://vimeo.com/845862738/a7b91a7c6a">https://vimeo.com/845862738/a7b91a7c6a</a>

**SPEECH OUTLINES FOR STUDENTS (FORMS): Robots**

- **T-Charts:** This is a collection of ideas divided into PROs and CONs of the debate topic. We use the T-chart to organize our ideas and from these ideas we will make evidence for our arguments.
- **Introductions:** This helps students to politely introduce themselves and introduce the topic. It is also a formality that satisfies the audience’s expectations.
- **Arguments:** In English writing, this serves the same function as a “Body Paragraph,” which is understood to be a topic sentence followed by supporting detail. Debate is similar in that we make a statement about the topic, and we support that statement with two or three pieces of evidence.
- **Speeches:** We make a speech by starting with an introduction and then we provide two or three arguments supporting our side of the debate topic.
- **Rebuttals:** We are expected to “refute (disagree)” with the arguments provided by the opposing team. The out line we use is called “4-Step Refutation (they said, we say, because, and therefore).”
- **Rejoinders:** We are expected to defend our arguments from the opposing team’s rebuttals. Their burden is to disagree with us, and our burden is to disagree back (to defend our arguments).
- **Voting Issues:** At the end of the debate, the final speakers will attempt to convince the judge that their side has won the debate. They do this by converting their arguments into “voting issues”. So, we make a concluding argument to persuade the judge to “vote” for our side of the debate.
- **Modes of Persuasion (Aristotle):** This is not an outline, but rather advice as to how to be more convincing or more “persuasive” (synonyms). We should be logical, emotional, and credible. The above video helps us to better understand these guiding principles of persuasion.  
*Note: Coach Bill teaches us to be “Clear, Confident, and Credible” and he advises that we also be “Compassionate” and show good “Character” as well. These traits are the foundation for excellence in debate speaking and competitions.*

## [SAMPLE] INTRODUCTION (PRO): Robots

“Hello my name is Coach Bill. Today, we will discuss: Robots.”

My partner and I believe that Robots are desirable (or Undesirable).

To begin, let’s discuss... Saving Lives.”

## [SAMPLE] ARGUMENT (PRO): Robots

Statement: [Debate topic] will [Help or Harm] \_\_\_\_\_.

Robots will help save lives,

Elaboration: because... [Briefly “Explain”]

*because... robots can do dangerous work instead of humans, and robots don't get tired or distracted the way humans do.*

Evidence/Examples: For example... [Provide “Evidence” (or proof)]

*For Example...*

1. *First... Doing Dangerous Work*

*According to... Voice of America, February 6, 2018.*

*It says... Humans will take fewer risks because robots will do dull, dirty, and dangerous work so that humans won't have to take unnecessary risks.*

*This means... Using robots will make millions of workers safer by taking their place when lifting heavy things or doing something potentially dangerous.*

2. *Also... Avoiding Distractions at Work*

*According to... Robotics Tomorrow, August 7, 2018.*

*It says... Robots improve safety because they can work faster without getting tired and they don't get distracted.*

*This means... Using robots will significantly increase workplace safety, reducing injuries and making the nearby workers safer too.*

Illustration: Imagine... [Explain the “Impacts”]

*Imagine... how much safer factories, construction, and other places will be when there are fewer injuries. This will truly save lives! :)*

Transition: Therefore... [Repeat the “Statement (from above)”]

*Therefore... robots will help save lives! Our next argument is... (or “Thank you”).*

## [SAMPLE] INTRODUCTION (CON): Robots

“Hello my name is Coach Bill. Today, we will discuss: Robots.

My partner and I believe that Robots are desirable (or Undesirable).

To begin, let’s discuss... Risking Lives.”

## [SAMPLE] ARGUMENTS (CON): Robots

Statement: [Debate topic] will [Help or Harm]: \_\_\_\_\_.

Using robots will risk lives,

Elaboration: because... [Briefly “Explain”]

because... robots malfunction and cause accidents when unpredictable things happen.

Evidence/Examples: For example... [Provide “Evidence” (or proof)]

For Example...

### 1. First... Robots Will Malfunction

According to... Network World, March 6, 2017.

It says... Robots are not at all perfect and they frequently fail to do their tasks properly and people are getting hurt as a result.

This means... Using robots will put millions of lives at risk because when they make a mistake it can cause a serious injury or even death.

### 2. Also... Causing Injuries at Work

According to... BBC News, September 30, 2020.

It says... Robots have caused an increase in injuries to the staff working at Amazon as reported by investigators who studied the situation.

This means... Using robots can significantly threaten workplace safety, as robots increase injuries to human workers.

Illustration: Imagine... [Explain the “Impacts”]

Imagine... how much safer factories, construction, and other places will be when there are fewer injuries. This will truly save lives! :)

Transition: Therefore... [Repeat the “Statement (from above)”]

Therefore ... robots will risk lives! Our next argument is... (or “Thank you”).

**[STUDENT] INTRODUCTION (PRO): Robots**

“Hello my name is \_\_\_\_\_. Today, we will discuss: Robots\_\_\_\_\_.

My partner and I believe that Robots are **desirable** (or Undesirable).

To begin, let’s discuss... \_\_\_\_\_.”

**[STUDENT] ARGUMENT-01 (PRO): Robots**

Statement: *Using robots will...* \_\_\_\_\_

Elaboration: because... \_\_\_\_\_

Evidence: For example...

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

Illustration: Imagine... [*Please skip this for now!*]

Transition: Therefore... \_\_\_\_\_

**[STUDENT] ARGUMENT-02 (PRO): Robots**

Statement: *Using robots will...* \_\_\_\_\_

Elaboration: because... \_\_\_\_\_

Evidence: For example...

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Illustration: Imagine... [*Please skip this for now!*]

\_\_\_\_\_

Transition: Therefore... \_\_\_\_\_

*“Thank you.”*

**[STUDENT] INTRODUCTION (CON): Robots**

“Hello my name is \_\_\_\_\_. Today, we will discuss: Robots\_\_\_\_\_.

My partner and I believe that Robots\_\_\_\_\_ are desirable (or Undesirable).

To begin, let’s discuss... \_\_\_\_\_.”

**[STUDENT] ARGUMENT (CON): Robots**

Statement: *Using robots will...* \_\_\_\_\_

Elaboration: because... \_\_\_\_\_

Evidence: For example...

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Illustration: Imagine... [*Please skip this for now!*]

\_\_\_\_\_

Transition: Therefore... \_\_\_\_\_

**[STUDENT] ARGUMENT (CON): Robots**

Statement: *Using robots will...* \_\_\_\_\_

Elaboration: because... \_\_\_\_\_

Evidence: For example...

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Illustration: Imagine... [*Please skip this for now!*]

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Transition: Therefore... \_\_\_\_\_

*"Thank you."*

## **[SAMPLE] INTRODUCTION FOR REBUTTALS (PRO): Robots**

In this speech, I will REFUTE each of the opposing team’s arguments.

To begin, let’s discuss...           Risking Lives          .”

## **[SAMPLE] REBUTTAL (PRO): vs. Robots Risking Lives**

**They Said...** [Debate topic] will [Help or Harm]: \_\_\_\_\_.

Using robots will risk lives,

**We Say...** [Debate topic] will “Not” [Help or Harm]: \_\_\_\_\_.

Using robots will “Not” risk lives,

**Because...** [Provide “Evidence” (or proof)]

1. *First...* Doing Dangerous Work

*According to...* Voice of America, February 6, 2018.

*It says...* Humans will take fewer risks because robots will do dull, dirty, and dangerous work so that humans won’t have to take unnecessary risks.

*This means...* Using robots will make millions of workers safer by taking their place when lifting heavy things or doing something potentially dangerous.

2. *Also...* Avoiding Distractions at Work

*According to...* Robotics Tomorrow, August 7, 2018.

*It says...* Robots improve safety because they can work faster without getting tired and they don’t get distracted.

*This means...* Using robots will significantly increase workplace safety, reducing injuries and making the nearby workers safer too.

**Therefore...** [Repeat the “We Say... (Without the ‘we say’ part)”]

*Therefore...* robots will NOT risk lives! *Our next argument is...* (or “Thank you”).



## [SAMPLE] INTRODUCTION FOR REBUTTALS (CON): Robots

In this speech, I will REFUTE each of the opposing team's arguments.

To begin, let's discuss...  Saving Lives ."

## [SAMPLE] REBUTTAL (CON): vs. Robots Saving Lives

**They Said...** [Debate topic] will [Help or Harm]: \_\_\_\_\_.

Using robots will save lives,

**We Say...** [Debate topic] will "Not" [Help or Harm]: \_\_\_\_\_.

Using robots will "Not" save lives,

**Because...** [Provide "Evidence" (or proof)]

1. *First... Causing Injuries at Work*

*According to...* BBC News, September 30, 2020.

*It says...* Robots have caused an increase in injuries to the staff working at Amazon as reported by investigators who studied the situation.

*This means...* Using robots will increase the risk of injury or death instead of preventing these risks. :(

2. *Also... Robots Will Malfunction*

*According to...* Network World, March 6, 2017.

*It says...* Robots are not at all perfect and they frequently fail to do their tasks properly and people are getting hurt as a result.

*This means...* Using robots will be even worse than any "distractions" because if they malfunction, they can cause very serious injuries or even death to the workers

**Therefore...** [Repeat the "We Say... (Without the 'we say' part)"]

*Therefore...* robots will NOT save lives! *Our next argument is...* (or "Thank you").

**[STUDENT] INTRODUCTION FOR REBUTTALS (PRO): Robots**

In this speech, I will REFUTE each of the opposing team’s arguments.

To begin, let’s discuss... \_\_\_\_\_.”

**[STUDENT] REBUTTAL (PRO): vs. ???**

**They Said...** Using robots will... \_\_\_\_\_

**We Say...** Using robots will NOT... \_\_\_\_\_

**Because...**

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

*It says...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*This means...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

*It says...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*This means...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Therefore...** Using robots will NOT... \_\_\_\_\_

**[STUDENT] REBUTTAL (PRO): vs. ???**

**They Said...** Using robots will... \_\_\_\_\_

**We Say...** Using robots will NOT... \_\_\_\_\_

**Because...**

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

*It says...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*This means...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

*It says...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*This means...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Therefore...** Using robots will NOT... \_\_\_\_\_

"Thank you."

**[STUDENT] INTRODUCTION FOR REBUTTALS (CON): Robots**

In this speech, I will REFUTE each of the opposing team’s arguments.

To begin, let’s discuss... \_\_\_\_\_.”

**[STUDENT] REBUTTAL (CON): vs. ???**

**They Said...** Using robots will... \_\_\_\_\_

**We Say...** Using robots will NOT... \_\_\_\_\_

**Because...**

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

*It says...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*This means...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

*It says...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*This means...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Therefore...** Using robots will NOT... \_\_\_\_\_

**[STUDENT] REBUTTAL (CON): vs. ???**

**They Said...** Using robots will... \_\_\_\_\_

**We Say...** Using robots will NOT... \_\_\_\_\_

**Because...**

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

*It says...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*This means...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

*According to...* \_\_\_\_\_

*It says...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*This means...* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Therefore...** Using robots will NOT... \_\_\_\_\_

## [SAMPLE] INTRODUCTION FOR REJOINDERS (PRO): ROBOTS

Hello, again. In this speech, I will DEFEND each of my team’s arguments.

The first argument I will defend is... SAVING LIVES.”

## [SAMPLE] REJOINDER OUTLINE (PRO): ROBOTS

They said we were wrong about: SAVING LIVES

However, we were “not” wrong because...

1. First... PREVENTING INJURIES

*Our research says...*

[Explain] Using robots will prevent injuries, because robots don’t get distracted and they are more accurate than humans.

[Disprove] So... It was incorrect for them to say that robots will cause injuries!

2. First... TESTING PREVENTS MALFUNCTIONS

*Our research says...*

[Explain] Companies will test the robots to make sure they work properly, because they don’t want to lose money from a lawsuit if their robot hurts someone.

[Disprove] So... It was incorrect for them to say that robots will malfunction!

Therefore, we were “not” wrong about: SAVING LIVES

“Thank you.”

**[STUDENT] INTRODUCTION FOR REJOINDERS (PRO): ROBOTS**

Hello, again. In this speech, I will DEFEND each of my team’s arguments.

The first argument I will defend is... \_\_\_\_\_.”

**[STUDENT] REJOINDER OUTLINE (PRO): ROBOTS**

They said we were wrong about: \_\_\_\_\_

*However, we were “not” wrong because...*

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

*Our research says...*

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[Disprove] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

*Our research says...*

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[Disprove] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Therefore, we were “not” wrong about: \_\_\_\_\_

*“Thank you.”*

**[STUDENT] INTRODUCTION FOR REJOINDERS (CON): ROBOTS**

Hello, again. In this speech, I will DEFEND each of my team’s arguments.

The first argument I will defend is... \_\_\_\_\_.”

**[STUDENT] REJOINDER OUTLINE (CON): ROBOTS**

They said we were wrong about: \_\_\_\_\_

*However, we were “not” wrong because...*

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

*Our research says...*

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[Disprove] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

*Our research says...*

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[Disprove] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Therefore, we were “not” wrong about: \_\_\_\_\_

*“Thank you.”*



**[SAMPLE] INTRODUCTION FOR VOTING ISSUES (PRO): ROBOTS**

In this speech, I will PRESENT each of my team’s Voting Issues.

The first Voting Issue I will present is... SAVING LIVES.”

**[SAMPLE] VOTING ISSUES OUTLINE (PRO): ROBOTS**

[Choose] *We think the most important argument is...* SAVING LIVES

*because...* they can improve medical care and do dangerous work instead of humans.

[Convince] *We think we are winning this argument because...* [Please skip this section]

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[Compare] *So...*

1. *If you vote for the PRO side...* INJURIES & DEATHS ARE PREVENTED

[Explain] Millions of lives are protected because robots will prevent injuries, and

replace humans who are doing dangerous work.

2. *Also...* MANY LIVES MAY BE LOST

[Explain] Millions of people will suffer because without robots they will end doing

really dangerous things like working under ground or underwater and can die.

*The next voting issue I will present it is...*

[or]

*So, for all these reasons, please vote for the PRO side of this debate. “Thank you.”*

**[STUDENT] INTRODUCTION FOR VOTING ISSUES (PRO): ROBOTS**

In this speech, I will PRESENT each of my team’s Voting Issues.

The first Voting Issue I will present is... \_\_\_\_\_

**[STUDENT] VOTING ISSUES OUTLINE (PRO): ROBOTS**

[Choose] *We think the most important argument is...* \_\_\_\_\_

*because...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Convince] *We think we are winning this argument because...* **[Please skip this section]**

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[Compare] *So...*

1. *If you vote for the PRO side...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *If you vote for the CON side...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*The next voting issue I will present it is...*

[or]

*So, for all these reasons, please vote for the PRO side of this debate. “Thank you.”*

**[STUDENT] VOTING ISSUES OUTLINE (PRO): ROBOTS**

[Choose] *We think [the most or another] important argument is...* \_\_\_\_\_

*because...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Convince] *We think we are winning this argument because...* **[Please skip this section]**

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[Compare] *So...*

1. *If you vote for the PRO side...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *If you vote for the CON side...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*So, for all these reasons, please vote for the PRO side of this debate. "Thank you."*

**[STUDENT] INTRODUCTION FOR VOTING ISSUES (CON): ROBOTS**

In this speech, I will PRESENT each of my team’s Voting Issues.

The first Voting Issue I will present is... \_\_\_\_\_

**[STUDENT] VOTING ISSUES OUTLINE (CON): ROBOTS**

[Choose] *We think the most important argument is...* \_\_\_\_\_

*because...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Convince] *We think we are winning this argument because...* **[Please skip this section]**

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[Compare] *So...*

1. *If you vote for the PRO side...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *If you vote for the CON side...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*The next voting issue I will present it is...*

[or]

*So, for all these reasons, please vote for the CON side of this debate. “Thank you.”*

**[STUDENT] VOTING ISSUES OUTLINE (CON): ROBOTS**

[Choose] *We think [the most or another] important argument is...* \_\_\_\_\_

*because...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Convince] *We think we are winning this argument because...* **[Please skip this section]**

1. *First...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *Also...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[Compare] *So...*

1. *If you vote for the PRO side...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. *If you vote for the CON side...* \_\_\_\_\_

[Explain] \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*So, for all these reasons, please vote for the CON side of this debate. "Thank you."*

