

Writing a Brief Persuasive Piece for a Panel Debate

Since you will be sharing the air time with many other debaters, you want to limit your presentation to about 1 minute. This translates to about 3 paragraphs. Each paragraph really ought to have 5 sentences.

My suggestions:

1. Start with: "My main argument is:..."
OR
Start with: a **relevant** quote, statistic, or anecdote
2. Your second and third paragraphs should be all about supporting the logic of your main argument with **evidence**.
3. It may look something like this:

2nd and 3rd Paragraphs.

Sentence 1: Make a statement that supports your main argument.

Sentence 2: Offer evidence that supports this point.

Sentence 3: Relate the evidence in your own words (explain it, if necessary; put it in your own words.)

Sentence 4: More evidence.

Sentence 5: Relate the evidence again.

Research Links

Use the "Opposing Viewpoints" database through the LHS Library Webpage. If you are researching from one of the school computers, you do not need a password.

Otherwise, the password is **lewi34569**.

<http://www.lewiston.k12.me.us/~lhslibrary/research1.html>

Also, you can use the ProCon.org website to get some background on your topic.

<http://www.procon.org/>

