# First Affirmative Speaker

# **Template & Suggested Opening Lines**

*NOTE: You don’t have to use any/all of these, they are suggestions only.*

**Introduction**

Introduce the topic in an interesting & engaging way. Acknowledge the audience, teams & adjudicator.

* *Have you ever wondered/Imagine this/Did you know that/[any other opening hook]*
* *Good afternoon Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.*
* *The topic for our debate today is…*

**Definition**

Clarify what your team understands the topic to mean. Define of any words that might be ambiguous or unclear to the audience.

* *Our topic today is, in simple terms, a consideration of….*
* *We define the topic as…*
* *We understand [word] to mean…*

**Team line**

Explain what your overall point is, what your team is going to argue. For the affirmative team, this will be YES you agree with the motion, and why.

* *We the affirmative team believe that… because….*
* *Our motion today is… which we definitely agree with because….*

**Team split**

Give brief outline of what areas you will cover and what your second speaker will cover. You can also mention the 3rd speaker, although it’s not essential (they will always cover rebuttal and summary).

* *Today as first speaker I will be talking to you about…*
* *Our second speaker will cover….*
* *Our third speaker will rebut and sum up our team’s case.*

**Arguments**

Give two good reasons why you’re right. Use PEEL format – Point, Evidence, Elaborate, Link

* *My first point today is… Firstly… The first point I’d like to share with you….*
  + *Recent research showed… Statistically… An example of this is…*
  + *This proves…. From this it’s clear…*
  + *Which leads on to my next point…*
* *Secondly… Another key point to consider…. Now to my second point…..* 
  + *An example of this is… research has shown…. Statistics are clear…*
  + *From this it can be clearly seen…. This example serves as undeniable proof because…*
  + *These two points both support our team’s position on [topic]….*