

Skips' Five Fundamental Foundations of Debate. (or Debate on a Page)

- DEBATE:** Debate should be Focused Clash on the Resolution.
- THE RESOLUTION:** The Resolution is an argumentative statement that fairly divides ground between the affirmative and the negative.
- THE AFFIRMATIVE:** The affirmative has the burden of Proof. They must prove that the resolution is reasonably true.
(So in a tie, negative is presumed to be correct and victorious – called Presumption.)
- THE CASE:** The Case should be a fair test of the validity of the Resolution.
(if case is true, a reasonable judge should be able to determine that by extension the resolution must be true.)
- THE NEGATIVE:** The negative team has the burden of rejoinder or refutation.
(Assuming that case is a fair and reasonable test of the resolution, they need to refute case or have the option of disproving the resolution as a whole)



Four Point Refutation System

1. **Location** Tell me what they said and where that appears on the flow
2. **Label** Give me a 2-3 word directional tag line for your argument, that I will flow
3. **Logic** Here you explain, support and give warrants (reasons) and data (evidence)
4. **Lowdown** Or Bottom Line – Impact the argument.

Abbreviated Toulmin Layout of an argument

1. **Claim** The main statement
2. **Warrant** The reason or reasons to believe that the statement is true
3. **Data** The evidence that proves that the claim is true, supporting the warrant.