

EXTENSIONS

Extension is the name given to the points made by the third speaker on each side of the house. It is called this because it is the new material brought in by the second teams (fourth speakers should have no new substantive points). The fate of the lower half teams is often (rightly or wrongly) decided mainly on the strength of the extension, since this is what your team brings to the table, so you ought to get it right. In the role play of BP debating, some people like to see the second half teams as being in a coalition government, and so the extension is the contribution of the second party in the coalition (I don't like this since the British parliament has rarely had such governments, they often disagree on things and why would you give them as much time to speak as the main party?). Nevertheless, the third speaker ought to bring something new. Remember: the extension (and rebuttal and POIs) must be consistent with what the team before you has said. Don't knife. So we want some rebuttal of what's come before (either second opposition speaker or third proposition speaker) and then:

1. New points
 - (a) What have the top half teams missed?
 - (b) You may wish to consider
 - Economics (not cost!)
 - Rights (who has them and why)
 - Duties
 - The role of the state (prove that it has this role)
 - The long term effects and any precedent that is set
 - The wider regional/international/societal effects
 - The effect on minorities and groups in society: women, children, the elderly, prisoners, the poor, homosexualists, the disabled
 - Is it moral?
2. New analysis
 - (a) Be more thorough than the guys above
 - (b) Seriously, much, much more thorough – it has to look new and substantial; one extra example doesn't cut it
3. New view point on the debate
 - (a) Stakeholder analysis
 - Identify the groups involved
 - Work through them, seeing how the proposition affects each
 - (b) Long term/short term effects
 - (c) Balance of harms
 - What are the harms?
 - Do they outweigh the benefits?
 - (d) Case study
 - This worked/didn't work in Iraq/Northern Ireland/my game of the Sims
 - Remember to show that the situation we're talking about in the debate and the one in your case study are analogous