

It's not so easy to become a good speaker or a good chairperson. Here are some useful advice which help you improve your debating skills and become a good speaker

- Talk to the audience, don't read to them. Remember your job is to persuade the audience
- and persuasion is interactive. You need to engage the hearts and minds of the audience.
- Practice in front of the mirror or in front of a video camera. There's no better way to improve your delivery than seeing what the audience sees.
- Write less on your cards, not more. Remember the main purpose of notes - to remember content. So, use as few written words as possible to help you jog your memory in case you get lost.
- Always relate what you are saying back to the topic - explain its relevance. You should make it clear to the audience that everything you say helps you prove your side of the topic.
- Use examples to support your arguments. They should be interesting, easy for the audience to relate to and provide sufficient evidence.

What makes a good chairperson

□ □ □ □ ***A good chairperson will always...***

- ***keep order***
- ***keep the audience's attention on the speaker***
- ***speak loudly and clearly***
- ***manage people who interrupt appropriately***

□ ***A good chairperson will never...***

- □ ***shout to keep order***
- ***use the gavel before they try to make their presence known verbally***
- ***treat the gavel as a sledge hammer***
- ***use violence to establish order***
- ***forget to keep a good record of time throughout the debate***

What makes a good speaker

A good speaker will always ...

- ***demonstrate a good knowledge of the topic***
- ***use examples and facts to support his/ her arguments***
- ***show enthusiasm and confidence***
- ***try to answer questions put to them, even if the questions are tough ones***
- ***ask somebody to restate their question if it is unclear***
- ***keep to the point and not wander off topic***
- ***speak loudly and clearly***

□ □ □ □ A good speaker will never ...

- ***mumble his / her words***
- ***contradict himself/ herself***
- ***have a question unanswered***
- ***leave the debate in a bad mood should he/she happen to lose***

I wish you good luck!