

# BEFORE WE GET STARTED

**Register your  
attendance.**

Session numbers are in  
the program.



SCAN HERE FOR  
AUSTIN ROSTERS



UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN



Lincoln Douglas  
Debate  
Affirmative Case Writing







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Each debater must have both an Aff and Neg case for every resolution.

This the general outline...







"I affirm / negate the resolution: \*Resolved: ....\*"  
My Value for today's debate is - \*definition\*

The Criterion upholding my Value is-  
The value / criterion relationship (analysis):  
Explain how your criterion solves or achieves your value

I offer the following Observation (framework): analysis + warrants

For clarity, we offer the following definitions (if applicable)

Contention One: (tagline)

Contention Two: (tagline)

Contention Three: (tagline)

Subpoint A - value / criterion relationship solves resolution + warrants

Subpoint B - case meets the framework + warrants

Subpoint C - reasons we must affirm / negate resolution

"Therefore, I affirm / negate the resolution."







So, where do I begin?







Let's work with this  
TFA Sept/Oct Resolution to  
write an AFF case:  
Resolved: The US ought to  
require all workers receive  
a living wage.







The first step is to **define key terms** of the Resolution

These definitions may be needed as part of the case. Depending on which side of the Resolution, you may look for a definition that supports that side.







LET'S TALK ABOUT  
EVIDENCE...







**Evidence** is scholarly research intended to prove and/or support your own analysis

This should be properly cited and quoted within your case ... use MLA!!

Consider the source and its potential bias when reading for evidence

Additionally, all evidence must be available in hard copy upon request. So, you must plan to print or otherwise produce any evidence you used should your opponent / judge want to look at it.







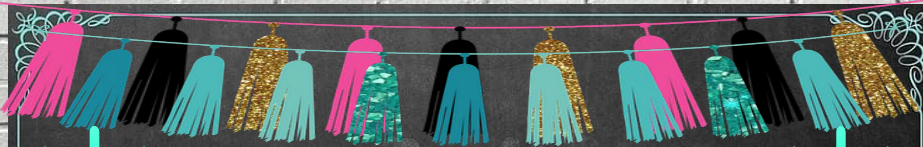
## Use your devices!

1. Create an aff case document
2. Define the following terms using a reputable online dictionary or credible academic source.....

Ought  
Require  
Workers  
Living Wage \*define as a phrasex







 The next step is to evaluate the Resolution... 

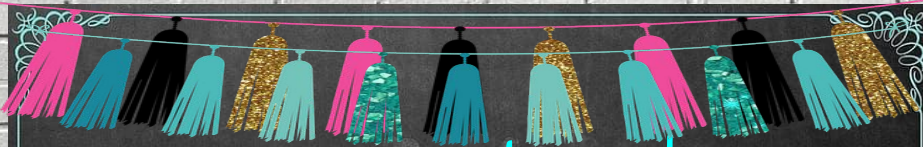
What is the topic generally about? What general harms are happening in the Status Quo that we should solve?

What are the most probable arguments in favor of the Resolution?

Brainstorm!!!!







## Use your devices!

1. Continue working in your aff case document
2. Do an online search "reasons to require that workers receive a living wage" ... "living wage good" ... "Why living wage"
3. Be sure to look for credible, academic sources for your ideas
4. Try to find 2 distinct reasons to affirm and type them into your document (contention 1 and 2)







Now that we've  
brainstormed, let's talk  
about the Affirmative  
case.







Always start with the  
CONTENTIONS  
(your reasons why)







Contention Structure:

Contention One: Main Tagline  
Subpoint A: evidence tagline,  
author, date  
\*MLA citation\*  
"Evidence from research"







\*a note about using evidence\*

You can copy and paste directly from the source with an mla citation

You cannot edit, omit or alter the evidence- that's unethical

You can choose to only read certain portions of the evidence for time- most people highlight what they will read







## Use your devices!

1. Continue working in your aff case document
2. Choose one of your brainstorm aff ideas (contention) to further research
3. Select one piece of evidence from your research and copy it into your aff document.
4. Write a tagline (short summary) for the card and include the mla format







*Example:*

Contention One: INCOME DISPARITY IN AMERICA CONTINUES TO WIDEN AT ALARMING RATES.

**SUBPOINT A: THE GENDER PAY GAP CONTINUES TO LEAVE FEMALE WORKERS BEHIND. Pew Research Center 2023.**

Kochhar, Rakesh. "The Enduring Grip of the Gender Pay Gap." Pew Research Center, 1 Mar. 2023, [www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/2023/03/01/the-enduring-grip-of-the-gender-pay-gap/#:~:text=The%20gender%20pay%20gap%20%E2%80%93%20the%20every%20dollar%20earned%20by%20men.](https://www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/2023/03/01/the-enduring-grip-of-the-gender-pay-gap/#:~:text=The%20gender%20pay%20gap%20%E2%80%93%20the%20every%20dollar%20earned%20by%20men.)

Accessed 07 Oct. 2024.

The gender pay gap - the difference between the earnings of men and women - has barely closed in the United States in the past two decades. **In 2022, American women typically earned 82 cents for every dollar earned by men.** That was about the same as in 2002, when they earned 80 cents to the dollar. The slow pace at which the gender pay gap has narrowed this century contrasts sharply with the progress in the preceding two decades: In 1982, women earned just 65 cents to each dollar earned by men. There is no single explanation for...







After you finish your contentions, then we decide on:

1. THE VALUE
2. THE CRITERION:







Based on the main arguments you came up with, think about what really big problem we can solve? What's the theme of your case?

After you know that, you can decide on a **VALUE**.

What really really important ideal can you achieve when we solve for your harms?







Some examples include:  
\*\*\* NO "ISMS"

EQUALITY  
JUSTICE  
SOCIAL PROGRESS  
LIBERTY  
DIGNITY  
AUTONOMY





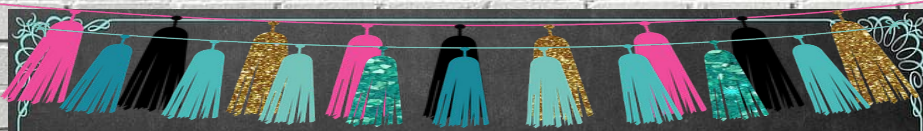


*Use your devices!*

1. Continue working in your aff case document
2. Using the examples choose and define a value.
3. Put it into your case outline (top of the case)







After you finish your value, then we choose a **crit**erion.

This is an **action** we can take or a **maxim / philosophy** we can live by that will move us toward achieving the value. The more criterion we do, the more value we achieve.

EX: if \$ can buy happiness, the more \$\$ we have, the more happiness we get.







Some examples include:

- Deontology**- evaluate the ethics of the means over the ends
- Consequentialism**- evaluate the ethics of the ends over the means
- Pragmatism**- evaluate the practicality of the action
- Utilitarianism**- do that which creates the greatest happiness for the greatest number of people
- Principle of Ought**- do that which fulfills our duties or obligations
- Social Contract**- do that which is agreed upon by society
- Individualism**- do that which preserves autonomy and self determination
- Morality**- do that which is morally acceptable







*\*\*not\*\**  
Sometimes the criterion is part of the resolution.  
EX: requiring all workers receive a living wage  
If we take this action, we achieve our value of ...







## Use your devices!

1. Continue working in your aff case document
2. Choose a criterion from the list of examples.
3. Put it into your case outline (top of the case) after the value
4. Explain how doing the criterion achieves your value. This is your ....

**VALUE/CRITERION RELATIONSHIP**







So far you have:

1. Defined key terms
2. Brainstormed 2 reasons to affirm
3. Written 1 tagline & cut 1 card with citation
4. Selected a Value
5. Selected a Criterion to achieve Value

After this, you would fully research & write Contention One & Two with evidence

Contention Three ties it all together. Because C1 and C2 are true we should use the criterion to solve the harms and achieve the value. Therefore, we affirm.







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Have a GREAT season!





# THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING



Austin Eval

**We value your  
feedback.**  
Please complete  
conference evaluation  
after your last session.

