

Handout 1: Structuring Arguments with C-R-E-I

An argument is the foundation for winning the debate; it's a logical statement where you prove your point through clear reasoning, examples, and impacts. In SSDC, we use the CREI structure to help you generate clear, and persuasive arguments.

Let's practice building a CREI argument using this motion.

Motion: Developing countries should prioritize investing in AI healthcare over training new doctors.

Claim:

A clear, concise statement of your position.

Example: "Investing in AI healthcare expands access and reduces critical care shortages."

Reasoning:

Explain why your claim is logically true.

Example: "Access to timely and accurate healthcare is crucial for saving lives. AI healthcare systems can analyze vast amounts of medical data rapidly, enabling faster diagnosis and treatment recommendations. Unlike human doctors, AI tools can operate 24/7, reaching remote areas with limited medical infrastructure."

Example/Evidence:

Support your reasoning with data, research, or real-world examples.

Example: "A 2022 study by the World Health Organization found that AI diagnostic tools reduced tuberculosis misdiagnosis rates by 35% in rural India. Additionally, AI-powered chatbots in Kenya provided prenatal care advice to over 100,000 women in regions with no nearby clinics."

Impact:

Explain why your argument matters in the debate.

Example: "Prioritizing AI healthcare saves lives by bridging the gap in medical access. It also frees up resources to train doctors in specialized fields, creating a balanced healthcare system that addresses both immediate and long-term needs."

Now you can try and build your own CREI argument

<i>Claim</i> <i>A clear, concise statement of your position.</i>	
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<i>Reasoning</i> <i>Explain why your claim is logically true.</i>	
<i>Evidence/Example</i> <i>Support your reasoning with data, research, or real-world examples.</i>	
<i>Impact</i> <i>Explain why your argument matters in the debate.</i>	

Handout 2: Rebuttal Framework (They Say - However - We Say - Therefore)

A rebuttal is a direct challenge to an opponent's argument. It shows why their point is wrong, weak, or less important. In SSDC, we use the "They Say - However - We Say - Therefore" rebuttal framework to craft focused, and impactful rebuttals.

Let's try applying this rebuttal framework using this motion.

Motion: Developing countries should prioritize investing in AI healthcare over training new doctors.

They Say:

Summarize the opponent's argument.

Example: "They say AI healthcare is more efficient and scalable than training doctors, as AI can diagnose diseases faster and reach underserved populations."

However:

Explain the flaw in their logic or evidence.

Example: "However, this argument assumes AI can replace human judgment. AI systems lack empathy and cannot adapt to complex, culturally sensitive patient interactions, which are critical in developing countries with diverse healthcare needs."

We Say:

Present your counter-argument on the same topic.

Example: "We say training doctors ensures personalized care and builds local medical expertise. For instance, in Nigeria, community-trained doctors reduced maternal mortality by 20% by understanding local traditions and resource limitations, something AI cannot replicate."

Therefore:

Explain why your rebuttal matters.

Example: "Therefore, prioritizing doctors over AI ensures sustainable healthcare systems. Human doctors can innovate, mentor future professionals. Investing in doctors directly strengthens the healthcare workforce, which is vital for long-term progress."

Now you can try and craft your own rebuttal

They say Summarize the opponent's argument.	
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<i>However</i> <i>Explain the flaw</i> <i>in their logic or</i> <i>evidence.</i>	
<i>We say</i> <i>Present your</i> <i>counter-</i> <i>argument on the</i> <i>same topic.</i>	
<i>Therefore</i> <i>Explain why your</i> <i>rebuttal matters.</i>	