

Speech

Panel Discussions

The purpose of a panel discussion is to solve a problem. Each member of the panel will explore a different aspect of the problem and then together the group will draw a conclusion and make a recommendation to the audience.

Each panel will consist of a chairman (moderator) and 3-4 panel members.

The chairman will introduce the problem to the audience. He will explain the nature of the problem, its causes and the effects it creates. He will also define any terms that are unfamiliar to the audience. He will then in turn introduce each of the panel members and briefly preview what they are going to cover. You should speak 4-6 minutes.

Each speaker should choose a different solution to the problem. During your research you will come across many solutions. It is up to your group to choose the ones that you think you can discuss most effectively and give the most evidence for. You should be able to give evidence and quote sources to support this solution. You are not arguing for this position; you are presenting a possible solution. You should speak 4-6 minutes.

After all the solutions have been presented, the chairman will present the recommendation from the group as to the best of all the solutions presented and then ask for questions from the audience. Any member of the panel can answer questions, or the chairman can direct any panel member to answer.

You all must quote from at least 2 sources. You will be allowed 3 note cards to help you. Visual aids are not required but may be very useful.

POSSIBLE TOPICS

1. How can more people be encouraged to vote? 12. POVERTY
2. Smoking in public places
3. Illiteracy problem in America
4. Problem of illegal aliens
5. The draft
6. Environmental problems — POLLUTION
7. Teenage pregnancy
8. Violence on American streets
9. Discrimination (of all kinds)
10. Capital punishment — DEATH PENALTY
11. Any other problem with at least 3-4 solutions