

SZTM Mini-Debate

Motion: **"Driverless cars will bring more benefits than risks."**

4 v 4 · Proposition vs Opposition

Ground Rules

1. Statements must be supported by evidence or reasons.
2. Facts presented must be accurate.
3. No personal attacks on opponents.

If any rule is broken, the audience may lodge a **Point of Order** with the moderator.

Debate Flow

Moderator Opening

2 min

Introduce the motion, both teams, and announce the rules.

Round 1: Opening Statements

3 min × 2

PRO Speaker 1 — define position and say why

OPP Speaker 1 — challenge the definition and reframe

Round 2: Arguments

2 min × 4

PRO Speaker 2 — present arguments

OPP Speaker 2 — rebut + present arguments

PRO Speaker 3 — rebut + present arguments

OPP Speaker 3 — rebut + present arguments

Audience Floor

3 min

Moderator invites audience views while teams prepare conclusions.

Round 3: Conclusions

3 min × 2

OPP Speaker 4 — summarize and close

PRO Speaker 4 — final rebuttal and close

Total: ~25 min

Moderator Checklist

Before the Debate

- Confirm 4 speakers per side and their speaking order
- Coordinate with the Timer on signals (1 min warning, 30s, time's up)
- Prepare the motion on a slide or whiteboard

During the Debate

- Read the motion aloud and introduce both teams
- Announce the 3 ground rules
- Call each speaker by name and role, e.g. "Now, Proposition Speaker 2, you have 2 minutes"
- If a speaker exceeds time, give a gentle cut-off: "Thank you, your time is up"
- Handle any Point of Order from the audience: pause the speaker, hear the objection, rule on it, resume
- During Audience Floor: call on raised hands, keep comments brief (30s each), balance pro/con voices

After the Debate

- Thank both teams
- Run the audience vote (show of hands or app poll)
- Announce the result

Speaking Order

#	Side	Role	Time
1	Proposition	Speaker 1 (Opening)	3 min
2	Opposition	Speaker 1 (Opening)	3 min
3	Proposition	Speaker 2 (Argument)	2 min
4	Opposition	Speaker 2 (Argument)	2 min
5	Proposition	Speaker 3 (Argument)	2 min
6	Opposition	Speaker 3 (Argument)	2 min
7	Opposition	Speaker 4 (Closing)	3 min
8	Proposition	Speaker 4 (Closing)	3 min

Proposition closes last (burden of proof is on them).