**NAFTA Debate**

*Question: Are Americans better off today under NAFTA?*

Points: 25 points 5 points for each of the following:

* Stay on task and accomplish your assigned role
* Have 5 specific pieces of evidence cited in your opening speech
* Have at least one chart displayed and referred to
* Have at least 2 rebuttal questions backed up by evidence
* Group members are able to answer rebuttal questions with evidence

**Debate structure**

Pro-NAFTA Opening statements- 3-4 min

Anti-NAFTA opening statements 3-4 min

Pro- NAFTA response and rebuttal questions 5 min

Anti-NAFTA Response and Rebuttal questions 5 min

Pro-NAFTA Closing statement 2-3 min

Anti-NAFTA Closing statement 2-3 min

**In your team assign the following roles:**

Opening Statement (1 speaker and one editor)

* You are responsible for writing and making a 3-4 minute speech laying out at least 5 specific points (backed by evidence) why you support your side.
* The editor should write the five points on the board
* You must refer to at least one graph or chart (bring it up on my computer)
* The editor should periodically check with the research teams to add info to the speech. Be sure to address to opposition’s argument

Closing Speaker (1 speaker and one editor)

* You are responsible for working with the Opening speaker on deciding what five pieces of evidence best support your argument
* You are responsible for preparing a 2-3 minute closing speech reiterating your five points.
* The editor should periodically check with the research teams to add info to the speech. Be sure to address to opposition’s argument

Research team (at least 2 members)

* Each member is responsible for finding at least ten pieces of evidence that support your side’s views.
* Help the opening and closing speakers formulate their arguments
* You are responsible from answering the opposing sides rebuttal questions
* Divide your research into 3 categories:
  + American jobs and wages
  + Overall impact on the economy
  + Regulations

Opposition Research (at least 2 members)

* You are responsible for finding at least ten pieces of evidence that support the opposing side’s views.
* Help the opening and closing speakers formulate their arguments
* Divide your research into 3 categories:
  + American jobs and wages
  + Overall impact on the economy
  + Regulations
* You will use this to come up with at least three rebuttal questions to the opposing side.

**Suggested Research:**

* A Pro NAFTA Site: <http://www.naftanow.org/facts/default_en.asp>
* Council on Foreign Relations: <http://www.cfr.org/trade/naftas-economic-impact/p15790>
* Labor Unions anti NAFTA stance: <http://www.aflcio.org/Issues/Trade/NAFTA>
* Anti-NAFTA op- ed: <http://www.epi.org/blog/neoliberal-mind-work-brad-delongs-muddled/>
* Anti NAFTA op-ed: <http://www.epi.org/publication/nafta-legacy-growing-us-trade-deficits-cost-682900-jobs/>
* Chamber of Commerce’s Pro NAFTA take: <https://www.uschamber.com/sites/default/files/legacy/reports/1112_INTL_NAFTA_20Years.pdf>
* Economist’s Take on NAFTA:
* <http://www.economist.com/news/briefing/21592631-two-decades-ago-north-american-free-trade-agreement-got-flying-start-then-it>
* US Trade Office: <https://ustr.gov/trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements/north-american-free-trade-agreement-nafta>
* NYT Debate: <http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2013/11/24/what-weve-learned-from-nafta>
* NPR Articles: <http://www.npr.org/2013/12/17/251945882/what-has-nafta-meant-for-workers-that-debates-still-raging>
* More NPR: <http://www.npr.org/series/249998251/20-years-of-nafta>