**I’m not gonna debate you! (unless you can provide me with some competition).**

So, you’ve got the topic, picked your roles and now you need to get yourselves ready to fight (only with words!)

**Hints:**

1. Know your role! and be sure you adhere to it.
2. Time is a factor. Say as much as you can in the time you have, but know which points are weak enough to let go or save for the Firing Line.
3. Predict in order to pre-empt. What will your opponents’ arguments be? What will they say to discredit your arguments?
4. The play is king! Provide quotations to support your **planned** points
5. You are not a lexicon! Provide only specific examples to support your **on-the-spot** rebuttals.\*
6. Use it or lose it. Review your notes on CBC’s “The Debaters”, what worked for the experts? Also, be sure you know the rubric and that you make your own chart (see other side)

\* the rebuttal occurs during the Bare-knuckle round. It is the process of attacking your opponent’s points while protecting your own.

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| **Phase** | **First to Act** | **Time Allotment** |
| **Opening Argument** | PRO | 3 minutes each |
| **Bare Knuckle Round** | PRO | 30 seconds alternating for 4 minutes (minimum). |
| **Firing Line** | CON | Until Mr. Roynon runs out of questions. |
| **Last Laugh** | CON | 3 minutes each |