High Level Debates

Language

Opinion

The way I see it, In my view, My view on the matter is... As far as I understand it, As far as I'm concerned, I personally am (not) a big fan of...

Evidence/Popular Opinion

All the evidence points to/suggests...
If you ask anyone,...
The vast majority of people would say...
We have no evidence that...
There's no evidence to support that whatsoever.

Main arguments

I support/oppose the notion that... for the following reason: Firstly,...
The key issue here is...
The critical/crucial factor here is...
It's vital to remember that...

Adding points

What's more,
Apart from that,
Another thing to consider is...
We shouldn't forget that...
It's also worth bearing in mind that...

Rebutting/Cross-Examining

So let me get this straight...
Correct me if I'm wrong but...
You can't possibly be saying that...
I feel I must also disagree with you about...

Conceding/Partially Agreeing

I admit that your point about... may be true, however...
Let's say I agree with the idea of..., would you also concede that...?
I hear what you're saying, but...

Conclusion

In a nutshell, So in summary, So to wrap up, All in all,

Debate Structure

- 1. Opening statement (2 mins)
- 2. Cross examination (1 min)
- 3. (repeat)
- 4. Rebuttal #1 (1 min each)
- 5. Rebuttal #2 (1 min each)
- 6. Closing Statements (1 min each)