

AREAS FOR RESEARCH

USE THESE AREAS AS GUIDEPOSTS AS TO WHERE TO BEGIN, WHAT STILL NEEDS TO BE COVERED, AND HOW BROAD YOUR RESEARCH NEEDS TO BE. YOU WILL RECEIVE POINTS FOR RESEARCH BEING COMPLETE WHEN YOU CAN SHOW ME YOU HAVE EXHAUSTED EACH OF THESE AREAS AS THEY APPLY TO YOUR TOPIC.

#1 Timeline: create a time line of key events within your topic and include aspects of each sub question.

#2 Key Terms: Using the WTP book and the vocabulary within your question/sub-questions create a list of key terms and their definitions. Be thorough. It is very important that you learn, understand, and become comfortable with the language so that you can use it properly and effectively in your speech writing and presentation.

#3 Biographies: create any summaries and biographical sketches of individuals who are important to your question. Who were they? What did they do? What was their impact upon the topic? Interesting anecdotes are great.

#4 Philosophical Basis: What are the philosophical underpinnings of your topic? Create a list of good quotes that relate to the philosophies behind the issues. Also, describe the philosophies that effect the topic.

#5 Precedent or Policy: If your topic concerns Supreme Court cases you should give the background of what the current precedent is concerning cases within your topic. If your topic is more historical or current you need to describe the legislation or policies that have developed within the topic.

#6 Opposing Arguments: describe in detail at least two opposing arguments to your stance on each question. If there is a precedent, consider reading the dissenting opinions.

#7 Interesting Anecdotes: in your own words write/tell at least two interesting stories or anecdotes that pertain to your topic. Each person in the group should have their own within a reservoir of stories to use.

#8 Current Events: keep at least one copy for the group of current news that pertain in any way to your questions. If there is something happening today, you will be expected to know and respond to the judges questions about it.