



# SKILL ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION

Welcome to LearningLeaders! The Skill Assessment is the first step of your LearningLeaders journey. It will help us get to know you better and understand your debate and public speaking skills.

You will be participating in an online video assessment. In this instruction file, you will learn

1. Skill Assessment requirements,
2. Skill Assessment steps,
3. Evaluation criteria,
4. Sample speech.

## 1. REQUIREMENTS

Please make sure to block out **30 minutes** in your schedule for the Skill Assessment. We ask that please record yourself at home, either via a computer webcam or on your mobile phone and make sure we can see your **full face and shoulders** in your video.

## 2. STEPS

For the **Argument Section**, you will receive a topic presented as statement. You have 5 minutes to prepare for a speech **agreeing (PRO)** OR **disagreeing (CON)** with the statement, please choose only ONE side, DO NOT do both. You will present a **3-minute** argument speech in which you must present **at least two arguments** supported with reasoning, examples, and impact. Reasoning refers to the explanation for why your argument is true, examples refer to anecdotes, news, or historical events that support your argument, and finally, impact refers to the reasons why your argument matters!

The second part you will be involved in is the **Rebuttal Section**! In this section, you will click on a coach speech as opposed to your chosen side. For example, if you delivered a PRO speech, please click on the coach CON speech, and vice versa. You have **3 minutes** to prepare a **2-minute rebuttal speech** to argue against the coach's speech. You can explain why it's flawed, not true, or simply unimportant. When you are planning your rebuttal, break down your opponent's points. You can rebut any part of their argument, such as their reasoning, examples and evidence, impact, or all three! You can also bring in new examples and impacts to support your rebuttals.





## 3. EVALUATIVE CRITERIA

During the Skill Assessment, you will be evaluated on the following criteria:

**Delivery:** The student's ability to effectively control and utilize their body, voice, and verbal and nonverbal expressions in the delivery of a speech.

**Content:** The student's ability to effectively compose a coherent, detailed and logical line of argumentation, that clearly leads the audience to the conclusion they desire.

**Engagement:** The student's ability to effectively engage with opponent speakers so that their team's speeches are more persuasive to the audience.

**Organization:** The student's ability to effectively structure and organize their speech and deliver it so that the audience is led in a specific path from its beginning to its end.

## 4. SAMPLE SPEECH

Here is a sample speech on the topic: Pets are Beneficial for Human Beings.

Pets are good for human beings since they can

- 1) provide accompany to human beings
- 2) connect people with others.

First, a pet can stay with you whether you feel sad or lonely. They will not leave you just because you are not successful or you are not charming enough. They will always stay on your side whenever you face a challenge in life. Give you support and hope when needed. Second, pets can connect you not only with them but with other people. When you are walking with dogs, you come across people who also have dogs, or people who like dogs. You talk to each other, about dogs, about the weather and a lot of other things. It keeps you away from loneliness and bridge you with the outside world. If you stay alone by yourself, you can easily feel that you have been discarded by the world. By having a pet, you can have their support, and they connect you with other people who potentially will be your friends! So having pets are beneficial for human beings.

Thank you so much for reading this instruction to learn more about our Skill Assessment! If you have any questions, please contact Doris Yu via email ([doris@learningleaders.com](mailto:doris@learningleaders.com)) or WeChat. We look forward to seeing you soon!