

SPEECH 133

Argumentation

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Consultation hours: Thurs-Fri, 1-5 PM



Week 5

Study and Activity Guide

September 26 – Asynchronous (read the materials)
September 29 – Synchronous (class discussion via Zoom)

Recap

Our discussion last week focused on the fundamentals of argumentation including field, presumption, burden of proof, and prima facie case.

I. STUDY GUIDE

Objective: Examine the function, wording, and types of argumentative propositions

TOPIC: PROPOSITIONS / MOTIONS AND DEFINITIONS

1. Let's Begin.

Propositions, which arise from controversies, set the limit for argumentation. A clearly phrased proposition is important in order to determine the scope of the issue and the speaker roles of the advocate and the opponent. The proposition identifies the point of disagreement between the two opposing sides as it is "a statement that identifies the argumentative ground and points to a

change in belief or behavior” (Rybacki & Rybacki, p. 36). It is important to remember that argumentation begins with a sound proposition.

In this lesson, we will examine guidelines in phrasing propositions to clearly reflect the locus of disagreement and to specify the direction for the change of belief or attitude. We will also look into the three classifications of propositions, which are fact, value, and policy, and how to properly write them. A clearly worded proposition will help fulfill the objectives of argumentation.

2. Read.

Read the following materials:

- a. What Am I Going to Argue About? (Rybacki & Rybacki, 2012), available in the course site
- b. The Proposition Case (Better Debate Manual, n.d.)
<https://betterdebatemanual.wixsite.com/better/proposition-case>

3. Think.

- a. Proposition: The judicial system should reform the system of juvenile and family courts. Given the proposition above, identify what words or phrases you feel would need to be defined.
- b. Write a proposition on the first 100 days of Marcos Jr. as president. Identify whether it is a fact, value, or policy proposition and explain it briefly.

II. ACTIVITY GUIDE

CLASS PARTICIPATION FORUM 3. Proceed to the course site and participate in the discussion forum. Make sure to carefully follow the instructions provided in the course site.

References

- Better Debate Manual (n.d.). *Preparing the groundwork: The proposition case*. Retrieved from <https://betterdebatemanual.wixsite.com/better/proposition-case>
- Rybacki, K.C., & Rybacki, D.J. (2012). *Advocacy and opposition: An introduction to argumentation* (7th ed.). USA: Allyn & Bacon.