



Opening Speech Sample



Sample #1

Fellow delegates,

Imagine a world where every breath we take just might be our last. But with every forest, every tree, disappearing with each passing moment, that reality is fast approaching.

Today, we gather as unified voices to address the climate crisis and deforestation - a crisis that transcends borders and political divisions.

The Delegation from Brazil stands firm in its belief that immediate and sustainable action is not only necessary but non-negotiable. Our position is clear: the world needs an international green fund, and operation GREEN is the only way forward.

This solution not only mitigates climate risks but fosters economic growth and job creation. Together, we can create a world that doesn't sacrifice its future for the present.

So, I leave you with this question: if not now, when? If not us, then who? Let us rise to the occasion and ensure that our actions today resonate for generations to come.



Sample #2

Honorable Chair, distinguished delegates,

It is a privilege to be here today to discuss some very important topics that concern not just us but everyone. The world is changing, and with it, there are many new and continuing challenges we face as a global community. There are a lot of problems that need our attention, and it is important that we address them together, one by one.

We recognize that the issue of climate change and environmental conservation is one of these challenges. The problem has many aspects, including important economic and social factors. It impacts many people in different ways, and it will take a great deal of work to solve them. We are glad that we can discuss these issues today and see how we can share resources and knowledge. Perhaps if we can form committees and sub-committees to work on detailed studies, we might find ways to move forward.

So, in conclusion, we hope this conference will be productive, and we look forward to hearing everyone's thoughts, because only if we work together will we ever solve these issues.





Why Sample #1 Works

Perfect Use of the START Formula:

- **Strong Attention Grabber** - "Imagine a world where every breath we take just might be our last." This opening hooks the audience with an emotional image.
- **Topic introduction** - The speaker transitions smoothly to "the climate crisis and deforestation," clearly stating the subject of the debate.
- **Assert Your Position** - The delegation asserts that "immediate and sustainable action is...non-negotiable," anchoring their stance.
- **Recommendation** - Brazil's solution—"an international green fund" via "operation GREEN"—is introduced.
- **Tie it Together** - The closing rhetorical question ("if not now, when? if not us, then who?") circles back to the urgency that was discussed at the beginning.

Delegation Name Mentioned - The speech identifies themselves as the Delegation from Brazil, making it easier for other delegates to send them notes after.

Initiative Name Mentioned - By naming their proposed policy "operation GREEN," the delegation gives their solution a memorable, marketable identity.

Concise - The speech is brief yet impactful, fitting within the typical 60-second limit for opening speeches. Every sentence serves a purpose—introducing the issue, outlining the solution, and motivating action—without any unnecessary filler.



Why Sample #2 Doesn't

Lack of Engagement - Let's face it, Sample #2 is just boring to read. It opens with generic praise and vague statements rather than a strong hook or emotional appeal. There's no compelling imagery, urgency, or unique perspective.

Delegation name not mentioned - At no point does the speaker identify their delegation, a critical error in opening speeches.

Repetitive and Wordy - Several ideas are repeated unnecessarily—'many problems' 'a lot of challenges,' 'it takes work.' Instead of making distinct points, the speaker circles around the same broad themes.

No real solution outlined - The speech offers no clear policy or initiative. The only suggestion—forming sub-committees for 'detailed studies'—is vague and passive.





Final Tips



Using The Ladder Method

The speaking time allotted to an Opening speech is normally determined on the day in your committee session. So you have to be prepared for every situation.

Generally, the best way to get around this is by using the Ladder method:

- Write out your entire speech that has all of the ideas that you want to include, aim for around 2 minutes.
- Next, highlight certain sentences in different colours that represent different speaking time lengths (The most common speaking times will be 30 seconds, 45 seconds, 1 minute).

This way you can have a speech that is punchy in every situation and you can always fill up the speaking time that is allotted.

Fellow Delegates

Imagine a world where the destructive power of nuclear weapons no longer hangs over humanity like a dark cloud. Picture a future where nations come together to dismantle their arsenals, paving the way for peace and global security.

The catastrophic potential of nuclear weapons is undeniable, and the mere existence of these destructive forces perpetuates a climate of fear and mistrust among nations. Furthermore, over 72 billion dollars are spent annually on the development, maintenance, and modernization of these weapons.

As the Delegation from Armenia, we firmly believe in the urgent need for nuclear disarmament. As a country positioned on the doorstep of nuclear capable nations, we are aware of the potential risks created by nuclear fallout.

To address this issue, we propose an emphasis on Disarmament Verification Mechanisms and the establishment of nuclear weapon Free Zones.

Implementing robust Disarmament Verification Mechanisms, including more frequent independent inspections and the utilization of advanced monitoring technologies, will ensure that countries actively reducing their nuclear arsenals remain committed to their disarmament efforts. Concurrently, the establishment of nuclear weapon Free Zones will incentivize states to actively pursue non-possession, non-use, and non-development of nuclear weapons within specific regions.

By promoting these measures, we aim to level the playing field and foster a more secure global environment for all nations involved.

In conclusion, let us remember that the pursuit of nuclear disarmament is not an option; it is our collective responsibility. It is our duty to future generations to create a world free from the shadow of nuclear destruction.

Together, let us take the first steps towards a safer, more peaceful world.

Full Speech = 2 Minutes

Yellow = 30 Seconds

Yellow + Orange = 45 Seconds

Yellow + Orange + Blue = 1 Minute



Practising Your Speech

- **Key Points** - Pick 3 or 4 key points or statistics from your speech, circle them and rehearse the set up for these points in your speech. Anybody in a committee will only remember a few things, so get your key points right.
- **Practise with teammates** - This helps to get comfortable speaking with an audience. You can also learn from how your teammates make their speeches and incorporate some skills into your own scripts.
- **Be Authentic and Passionate** - Show that you genuinely care about your topic and your audience. Your enthusiasm will be contagious and will help to engage and inspire those listening.





Persuasive Devices

A speech with persuasive content can effectively convey the country's perspective and contribute to meaningful debates during the conference. A speech with good content will always stand out more than one that is just all fluff.

There are a few important aspects to a speech with good content, this includes:



Hook - Grab attention and draw the room in



Repetition - Reinforce your message



Facts and Figures - Data can make you more persuasive



Quotes and References - Lift your credibility by citing authority figures.



Metaphors - Simplify complex topics



Call to Action - By inviting others to act, you show leadership



Establishing Your Brand

The opening speech represents the perfect opportunity to set up your brand for the rest of the committee - so consider what you want delegates to remember about you:

- Is there a particular idea that you want to be known for?
- Do you believe that a certain aspect of the topic requires more focus?
- Is your state especially focused on a certain aspect of the topic?

Leverage your personality – Embrace your personality and what makes you who you are, you want delegates to trust you and authenticity is the best way to do that. It will help them to feel more comfortable approaching you.



Other Helpful Guides

- [MUN Speech Openers Database](#)
- [MUN Quotes Guide](#)
- [MUN Facts and Figures Guide](#)

