

Drafting the Perfect GSL

The GSL, or the General Speakers List, is the formal platform where delegates deliver speeches about the agenda being discussed. It is the main debate mode, where countries outline their policies, propose solutions, and set the tone for further discussions. It is usually for 90 seconds.

The GSL can be quite important to set the tone for your conference, and it can be daunting in some situations. Despite this, we will discuss a great method to write a failsafe GSL, guaranteeing your success in our conferences.

The CIA Method

- Clash – A confrontation of ideas, specifically an important two-sided issue within the topic that you want the committee to discuss.
- Information – Relevant facts, ideally numbers, that support other parts of your speech. Information can also be facts about your country that justify your position.
- Action – The practical policy you offer to solve the issue you set up in your clash.

Clash

Example: The United Nations should fund water filtration in countries that suffer volcanic eruptions.

A clash in MUN would involve two opinions in direct opposition on one idea, therefore clashing with each other. For something to be a clash, delegates from your committee need to be on either side of it. If there are no two sides, it is not something the committee will debate and will either unanimously go straight to the unimportant clause section of the resolution or fall entirely out of discussion. Either way, it will not be central to the debate on the floor. This allows you to state the stance of your delegation and gain support from other delegates.

Information

A strong MUN speech needs to have relevant facts and numbers that support parts of your speech. Without information, your fellow delegates can only rely on your word, which might not give enough credibility to what you have to say. Numbers, names, dates, and hard facts show what we are saying exists in the real world and is not an opinion. Getting information from credible sources is a must. Numbers are the best form of information to use and the hardest to argue with.

Call to Action

A Call to Action is a statement designed to give instructions for an immediate response. It is the practical policy to solve the issue you set up in your clash. Without it being clear, other delegates will not know what to do with the Clash and Information you presented. Your Call to Action needs to be Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Timely (SMART).

This method allows you to have a holistic, well-rounded speech addressing the agenda effectively. Furthermore, it is important that you deliver the speech with confidence, a loud, audible voice, and excellent body language. These elements all work together to provide you with a great speech.

Be Prepared

While drafting a speech can always be useful, especially for first-timers, it is highly recommended to be prepared to adapt. Sometimes, especially when you aren't the first few speakers, it's likely another delegate already said what you had planned.

Don't panic, and don't repeat arguments unless their emphasis is absolutely crucial to your country's policy. (E.g., your country's stance in a war). In such cases, to ensure that your speech contributes to the flow of the committee, try to challenge ideas made by other delegates, and use your research to bring in new ideas to the committee. Once again, unless it's necessary, DO NOT repeat ideas.