

# Debate Topics for the 1960 Presidential Election

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Three students from each campaign will be designated to debate one another at the end of weeks 3, 5, and 7. The topics of the debates are as follows: Week 3: Experience and Qualifications for the Presidency; Week 5: Foreign Policy; Week 6: The Eisenhower Administration and America in 1960. One student should be designated to prepare an opening statement of no longer than 2 minutes. Another student will be asked to respond to a question and to rebut his opponent's remarks. The time limit on the answer is limited to two minutes and rebuttal is limited to one minute. Then, the third student should deliver a two-minute conclusion. A yellow light will indicate that you have 1 minute left; a red light will indicate that your time has expired.

## Debate One: **Experience and Qualifications**

Question for the candidates: *"Why do you believe that you are more qualified than your opponent for the presidency?"*

## Debate Two: **Foreign Policy**

Question for the candidates: *"What is the greatest international challenge facing America in the 1960's in terms of its role in the world?"*

Missile gap  
Quemoy and Matsu  
Two China Issues  
Cuba  
U-2 Affair  
Khrushchev and the Soviet Union  
Liberation of African Republics  
Berlin



## Debate Three: **Domestic Policy & the Eisenhower Administration**

Question for the candidates: *"What is your assessment of the Eisenhower administration? Do you believe that in 20 years he will be remembered as a 'great' president?"*

Economy  
Civil Rights/Martin Luther King  
Education—Science & Math  
The Eisenhower Legacy

Debaters will be assessed on a 10-point scale—10/10

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