**Revising Speeches for Debate Day**

**Talking too fast WILL make you lose points on all aspects of the delivery score, and it COULD cause your judge to miss some of the points in your main speech, too.**

**Here are some ways to make your speech more concise, without cutting out anything crucial to the communication of your ideas.**

1. **Make your information in your intro & conclusion paragraphs as brief as possible.**

* You do **NOT** need a quote in either of these paragraphs, no matter which speaker you are.
* If you’re the **FIRST** speaker, you may cut everything out of your 5th paragraph except the *position statement* & *echo*.
* If you’re the **SECOND** speaker, you may cut everything out of your 1st paragraph except the *hook* & *position statement*.

1. **Take a look at your quote selection.  Ask yourself:** 
   * What point am I *actually* trying to make?
   * Can I cut this quote down to the *smallest sentence* or even partial sentence that *makes that point and uses powerful language*?
   * Can I *paraphrase* the quote so that it’s shorter than the actual direct quote?
   * Can I use the author’s name *instead* of the title?
2. **Then, do the same for each analysis.  Ask yourself:** 
   * What point am I *really* trying to make?
   * Can I say it in *one or two clear sentences, using powerful language* that an uninformed student or parent can understand?
3. **Throughout the speech, make sure you have very clear, short phrases for transitions.**
   * Try to make them *one or two words* so they are easy to emphasize with your inflection.
   * Make sure you are also using the *subtopic terms* in each *topic sentence* & each *analysis*.

**Work on these things, and you will hit on what the judge really needs to hear for you to earn your maximum points!** ☺

**You guys are going to rock!**