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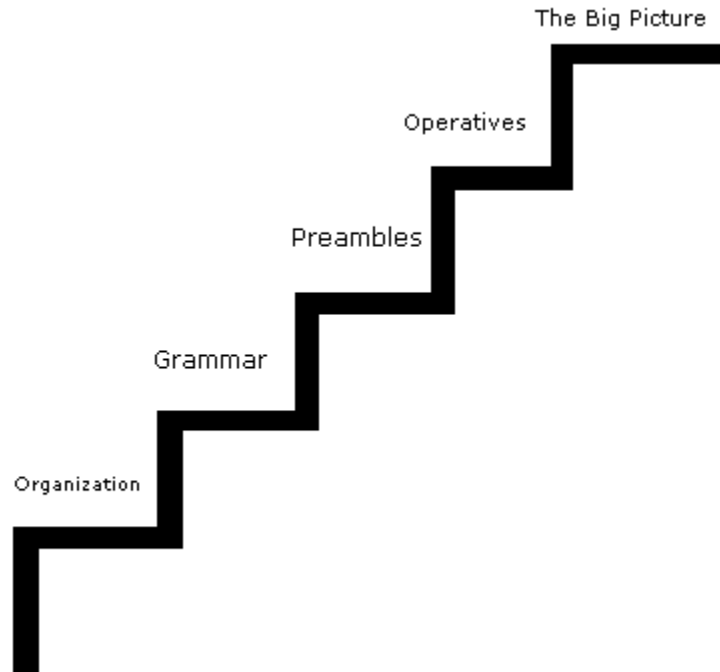
Resolution Writing Workshop



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A resolution is a formal text adopted by a United Nations body that recommends steps nations can take to solve a world issue. (While any body can pass a resolution, the only true effective ones come out of the Security Council)

The Five Steps to a Successful Resolution



Step #1: Organization

How is a resolution organized?

What comes first?

What's next?

The way a resolution is laid out is as follows:

Heading:

Committee: _____

Topic: _____

Sponsors: _____, _____, _____, etc.

Signatories: _____, _____, _____, etc.

The first two parts of the heading are self-explanatory, but the latter two are not. A sponsor is normally a nation who works on or at least supports the resolution. While sponsors are not obliged to vote for the resolution, they typically tend to. A signatory on

the other hand is simply a nation who wants to see the resolution debated. In the face of diplomacy, all nations are usually signatories to resolutions (for the sake of Model United Nations) if asked to be. If a nation is a signatory, they can by all means support or not support the resolution as they see it fit. A nation may be a signatory on more than one resolution and can be a signatory on one resolution and a sponsor on another.
SIGNATORIES JUST WANT TO SEE DEBATE ON THE RESOLUTION!

Next comes the simple line:

The _____,

In the blank you are to put the name of the committee you are in. For example, if it is the Human Rights Council, the line would read:

The Human Rights Council,

If it is DISEC on the other hand (one exception to simply writing the committee name), the line would read:

The First Committee of the General Assembly,

After that line comes the Preambulatory (preams for short) Clauses. *See Step 3 for More*

Following the Preams are the Operative Clauses. *See Step 4 for More*

The final part of the resolution (at least as OCEANSIDE does it) is the Operative to end all Operatives (aka YOU end every resolution with it). That operative is:

#. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

Step # 2: Grammar

How do I punctuate a resolution?

Why does this go there?

What gets numbered and what gets underlined?

Okay, so basically you've arrived at the most frustrating but necessary part of a resolution. Making a resolution grammatically correct can be an extremely tedious process but all resolutions must be in the same format so this becomes an important step in the end.

To Start w/ the Preams:

- Preambulatory Clauses are NEVER numbered!
- The first word (actual clause word) is underlined.
- Each perambulatory clause ends with a comma (,).

Now to the Operatives:

- Each operative clause is numbered, starting at 1 and getting progressively higher.
- The first word (actual clause word), like preams, is always underlined.
- If a clause has NO sub-clauses, the clause ends with a semi-colon (;) before moving on to the next clause.
- If a clause has a sub-clause, the grammar is as follows:

1. Authorizes the use of existing Ombudsman posts, as well as similar UN assessment instruments, with the consent of willing nations, in order to provide an accurate system of garnering information on the local status of environmentally related issues to the High Commissioner, for the purpose of:

a. Providing reliable information on a case-by-case basis for suitable organizations to take appropriate measures to mitigate conflict,

b. Creating a mechanism for local concerned citizens to voice their concerns for anticipated security threats related to environmental issues such as, but not limited to:

i. Food shortages,

ii. Lack of clean water,

iii. Agricultural problems,

iv. Conflict over natural resources,

v. Territorial claims,

c. Cooperating with the High Commissioner in implementing the development of Ombudsman posts, at the request of willing nations;

Nothing should be bold, that is for the purpose of showing the grammar

So, as you can see:

Format for adding sub-clauses is:

1.

a.

i.

A.

I.

-After a main clause that has a sub-clause you must have a colon (:).

-After a sub-clause moving to another sub-clause on the same level (i.e. a to b OR i to ii OR ii to b, etc.) you must have a comma.

-After a sub-clause moving to a lower sub-clause (i.e. a to i) you must have a colon.

-YOU CANNOT HAVE AN a WITHOUT A b. Same goes for the fact that you cannot have an i without an ii, etc.

-At the end of the clause, as with all other operatives, you must have a semi-colon.

-After the final clause (remember that Decides to remain...) you put a period (.). THAT SHOULD BE THE ONLY PERIOD IN THE ENTIRE RESOLUTION!

Step #3: Preambulatory Clauses

What are they?

How do they work?

Where do they go?

Okay, so now that you know the organization and grammar, you have to get down to what counts, the meat of the resolution, the actual clauses.

The first type of clause is the Preambulatory Clause. What the Preams do is set up the basis for the plan that will be brought out in the Operatives. Essentially the preams are used as the background and an acknowledgement of action that has been taken in the past.

When writing perambulatory clauses, you must use specific words, they are:

Affirming Alarmed by Approving Aware of Bearing in mind Believing Concerned Confident Contemplating	Convinced Declaring Deeply concerned Deeply conscious Deeply convinced Deeply disturbed Deeply regretting Deploring Desiring Emphasizing Expressing its appreciation Fulfilling Fully alarmed Fully aware Fully believing Further deploring	Further recalling Guided by Having adopted Having considered Having considered further Having devoted attention Having examined Having heard Having received Having studied Having witnessed Keeping in mind Noting Noting further Noting with approval	Noting with deep concern Noting with regret Noting with satisfaction Noting with zest Observing Reaffirming Realizing Recalling Recognizing Referring Seeking Taking into account Taking into consideration Taking note Viewing with appreciation Welcoming
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Here is an example of a few preams:

Reaffirming the Paris Weapons Convention signed in 1993,

Aware of the fact that many countries are presently in possession of disturbing quantities of chemical weapons,

Emphasizing the success of Russia and the United States in negotiations and compromises on the destruction of chemical weapons,

Step # 4: Operative Clauses

What's the difference between the two types of clauses?

What do operatives actually do?

How do I word them?

So as we round the bend and almost finish off the resolution we stumble upon the most important part! The Operative Clauses. These are the clauses that actually take action and recommend a plan to be put into place. In your operative clauses you want to make sure that all points from your plan get in there. That's how you impress a chair. Make sure the resolution consists of your plan with some compromise.

Operatives also have specific words that you have to use:

Accepts Affirms Approves Authorizes Calls Calls upon Condemns Confirms Congratulates Considers Declares accordingly Deplores	Designates Draws the attention Emphasizes Encourages Endorses Expresses its appreciation Expresses its hope Further invites Further proclaims Further recommends Further reminds Further requests	Further resolves Invites Notes Proclaims Reaffirms Recommends Regrets Reminds Requests Resolves Solemnly affirms Strongly affirms	Strongly condemns Supports Takes note of Transmits Trusts Urges
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This is the part of the resolution that you must do the most compromising in. While you want your plan to be at the forefront of a resolution, you will not have support of the committee if you don't take all views into account. Work with other countries and attempt to compromise because remember that the UN is all about diplomacy and compromise.

For examples, check out the operatives in the sample resolution at the end!

Step #5: The Big Picture

How do I bring it all together?

What happens next?

How does a resolution pass?

Once your resolution is written you are to bring it to the chair. The chair will sometimes make corrections but most of the time put it up for debate once a motion to introduce is entertained. You then go on debating the resolution before someone motions to close debate and then voting procedure begins immediately. A resolution needs a majority to pass.

Here is a sample Resolution for you to refer to:

Resolution

Committee: Special Political and Decolonization Committee

Topic: Peaceful uses of Outer Space

Sponsors: Mexico, Egypt, Kazakhstan, Malaysia

Signatories: Sri Lanka, New Zealand, Yemen, France, Czech Repub., Cyprus, Poland, Botswana, Uganda, Italy, Japan, UK, Ireland

The Fourth Committee of the General Assembly,

Alarmed by the current state of the international community in regards to space development and the possibility of a future arms race in outer space,

Reaffirming the principles of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty,

Keeping in mind the importance of the demilitarization of space in order to preserve international security and stability,

Noting the importance of cooperation and communication between nations on an international level,

Emphasizing the importance of transparency in regards to space development for the benefit of the international community,

1. Requests the establishment of the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS) Ad-Hoc committee:
 - a. For the purpose of multilateral input in order to stimulate transparency within the international community,
 - b. To encourage Confidence- Building Measures (CBMs) in order to reduce international tensions through:
 - i. Promoting regional cooperation in regards to peaceful space developments,
 - ii. An exchange of space technology and safety provisions,
 - iii. Awareness of dates, purposes, and locations of space expeditions,
 - iv. Cooperation and communication on an international level,
 - c. analyzing the motives of nations space capabilities and developments,
 - d. which will consist of all willing nations and scientific experts ;
2. Urges an amendment to article IV of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty (OST):

- a. Which would define outer space as beginning at the Kármán line, specifically 100 kilometers above earth's surface,
 - b. Which would prohibit the placement of all weapons in outer space;
3. Encourages the utilization of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) for the purpose of:
 - a. Seeking an advisory opinion in the case of a nation violating international laws regarding space developments, including treaties,
 - b. Penalties based on the court's verdict in order to provide regional and international enforcement;
4. Emphasizes the need for an awareness campaign which would include but not be limited to:
 - a. Awareness of the possibility and effects of an arms race in outer space,
 - b. Educational programs including but not limited to:
 - i. Grass roots education through seminars involving governments and scientific experts,
 - ii. Mass media campaign through pamphlets, radio, television, internet, and posters where available,
 - iii. College campus seminars;
5. Encourages the expansion of regional launch centers for the purpose of:
 - a. Discouraging developing nations from seeking to acquire military technology in outer space,
 - b. Fostering regional cooperation,
 - c. Expanding peaceful space technology which will be funded by a collaboration of willing nations within their respective region;
6. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

*The above resolution was that of Scott Elias ('09-'10 President /'08-'09 Vice President/)

*****Congratulations! You made it to the end and now have what it takes to write a first-rate resolution. I hope that these five steps really helped provide a clear and concise format for the resolution writing process and that you are now a better resolution writer because of this workshop.*****