Your role is to create questions that prove the validity or poke holes in the arguments of those groups who **disagree** with you. You will ask these questions to the Spokesperson and Spokesperson’s Aide after they have presented their positions. Once they answer, you will provide a follow-up: either a rebuttal statement/question to further examine or discredit their thinking.

Remember, your goal in SNCC’s convention this week is to create a realistic path forward to achieve equality, so testing the usefulness of each group’s ideas is incredibly important. It is important you bring up historical examples from the unit and from class to illustrate your questions or prove flaws in the other teams’ arguments.

**Instructions**: To do this, you should use the “Perspectives Cheat Sheet” and the following chart to organize your questions. First, fill out your teams’ positions on the three topics up for debate. **You will be attacking the opposite of what your team believes.** You should create **two** questions for each position your team disagrees with. Fill out the Historical Examples column using your knowledge from class - these should be historical events, people, or examples from the Civil Rights Movement or other historical time periods that help prove their position doesn’t work. You should have at least one for each position. Highlight which position you are writing a question for in the “Position” box. The first line has been provided as a model for you, using the topic of government-paid for social welfare programs. Possible question starters to jumpstart your thinking are provided below:

You say \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but wouldn’t that lead to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

Would you agree that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

Isn’t \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ more important than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

It’s a contradiction when you say \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. How do you explain this?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ says that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. How do you respond to this statement?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| My group’s position… | So I am attacking… |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Position I am attacking** | **Potential Problem with this Position**   | **My Question**   | **Historical Examples from the Civil Rights Movement to Prove This Position Doesn’t Work** | **Other Historical Examples to Prove This Position Doesn’t Work** |
| Example: *Social Welfare Programs*  | *The government would raise taxes to pay for these*  | *Do you think it’s fair to raise taxes on everyday citizens to pay for programs only a small percentage of the population uses?*  | *While Johnson’s Great Society created the Department of Housing and Urban Development in the 1960s to provide low-cost housing to those in poverty, many of those housing developments became areas of more poverty, crime, and danger.*  | *During the New Deal, the Federal Dance Project was created to employ out-of-work dancers, a very small percentage of the total US population. Taxes increased on the wealthy to pay for a program very few Americans used/needed.* |
| **Position I am attacking** | **Potential Problem with this Position**   | **My Question**   | **Historical Examples from the Civil Rights Movement to Prove This Position Doesn’t Work** | **Other Historical Examples to Prove This Position Doesn’t Work** |
| Highlight one: Inclusion Exclusion Violence/Self Defense Nonviolence Economic Equality Political Equality  |         |   |  |  |
| Highlight one: Inclusion Exclusion Violence/Self Defense Nonviolence Economic Equality Political Equality  |  |  |  |  |
| **Position I am attacking** | **Potential Problem with this Position**   | **My Question**   | **Historical Examples from the Civil Rights Movement to Prove This Position Doesn’t Work** | **Other Historical Examples to Prove This Position Doesn’t Work** |
| Highlight one: Inclusion Exclusion Violence/Self Defense Nonviolence Economic Equality Political Equality  |  |  |  |  |
| Highlight one: Inclusion Exclusion Violence/Self Defense Nonviolence Economic Equality Political Equality  |  |  |  |  |
| **Position I am attacking** | **Potential Problem with this Position**   | **My Question**   | **Historical Examples from the Civil Rights Movement to Prove This Position Doesn’t Work** | **Other Historical Examples to Prove This Position Doesn’t Work** |
| Highlight one: Inclusion Exclusion Violence/Self Defense Nonviolence Economic Equality Political Equality  |  |  |  |  |
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