

how to write a resolution for model un

How to Write a Resolution for Model UN

Participating in Model United Nations (MUN) conferences can be a rewarding experience, especially when it comes to understanding global issues, diplomacy, and negotiation. One of the most critical components of a successful MUN experience is crafting a well-structured resolution. A resolution is a formal document that outlines a proposed solution to a specific issue being discussed in a committee. In this article, we will explore the essential steps and best practices for writing an effective resolution for Model UN.

Understanding the Basics of a Resolution

Before diving into the writing process, it's essential to understand what a resolution is and its purpose in MUN. A resolution serves several key functions:

- It proposes solutions to the issues at hand.
- It reflects the views of the committee members.
- It provides a framework for debate and discussion.

A resolution typically consists of several components, including the heading, preambular clauses, and operative clauses.

Components of a Resolution

1. **Heading:** The heading of the resolution includes the name of the committee, the topic being discussed, and the list of sponsors (countries that support the resolution).
2. **Preambular Clauses:** These clauses provide background information and context for the issue. They often reference previous resolutions, relevant treaties, or statistical data. Preambular clauses begin with words like "Affirming," "Recognizing," or "Noting."
3. **Operative Clauses:** These clauses outline the proposed actions and solutions. They should be clear, actionable, and specific. Operative clauses typically start with verbs such as "Calls upon," "Encourages," or "Urges."

Researching Your Topic

Before you start writing your resolution, thorough research is crucial. Understanding the topic can significantly enhance the quality of your resolution. Here are some steps to guide your research process:

1. **Identify Key Issues:** Understand the main aspects of the topic and identify specific issues that

require solutions.

2. Gather Information: Use reputable sources like academic journals, government reports, and news articles to gather data and viewpoints on the issue.

3. Understand Your Country's Position: Familiarize yourself with your assigned country's stance on the issue. This knowledge will help you align your resolution with your country's foreign policy.

4. Review Previous Resolutions: Look at past resolutions on similar topics to understand how they were structured and what solutions were proposed.

Writing the Resolution

Once you have conducted your research and gathered all necessary information, you can begin drafting your resolution. Follow these steps for effective writing:

1. Create a Strong Heading

The heading should be clear and concise. It should include the committee name, the topic, and the sponsors. For example:

Resolution 1/1 - The Situation in the South China Sea

2. Draft Preambular Clauses

Preambular clauses set the stage for the resolution. Here's how to draft effective preambular clauses:

- Be Concise: Each clause should be a single thought or idea.
- Use Formal Language: Maintain a professional tone throughout.
- Cite Sources: If applicable, include references to treaties or previous resolutions.

Example of preambular clauses:

- Recognizing the ongoing territorial disputes in the South China Sea,
- Affirming the importance of international law, particularly the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS),
- Noting the increasing military presence in the region and its potential impact on regional stability,

3. Formulate Operative Clauses

Operative clauses are the heart of the resolution, where you propose solutions. Consider the following tips:

- Be Specific: Clearly outline what action you want to be taken.
- Prioritize Solutions: List the most critical actions first.
- Use Clear Language: Avoid jargon and ensure that your clauses are easy to understand.

Example of operative clauses:

1. Calls upon all parties to engage in diplomatic negotiations to resolve territorial disputes peacefully.
2. Encourages the establishment of a multilateral forum involving all claimant states to discuss maritime security.
3. Urges member states to adhere to the principles of UNCLOS in their maritime activities.

Formatting the Resolution

Proper formatting is essential to ensure clarity and professionalism in your resolution. Follow these guidelines:

- Font and Size: Use a standard font such as Times New Roman or Arial at a size of 12 points.
- Spacing: Use single spacing for the body of the resolution and double spacing between clauses.
- Numbering: Number the operative clauses for easy reference.
- Indentation: Indent operative clauses to distinguish them from preambular clauses.

Editing and Revising

After drafting your resolution, take the time to review and revise it. This process is crucial for ensuring clarity and coherence. Here are some steps to follow:

1. Read Aloud: Reading the resolution aloud can help identify awkward phrasing or unclear clauses.
2. Seek Feedback: Share your resolution with peers or mentors for constructive feedback.
3. Check for Consistency: Ensure that the resolution maintains a consistent tone and style throughout.
4. Proofread: Carefully check for grammatical errors, spelling mistakes, and formatting issues.

Presenting Your Resolution

Once your resolution is finalized, you will need to present it during the MUN conference. Here are some tips for an effective presentation:

- Be Confident: Speak clearly and confidently when presenting your resolution.
- Highlight Key Points: Focus on the most critical aspects of your resolution during the presentation.
- Engage with the Audience: Make eye contact and be responsive to the audience's reactions.

- Prepare for Questions: Anticipate questions and be ready to defend your resolution during the debate.

Conclusion

Writing a resolution for Model UN is a skill that requires practice, research, and attention to detail. By understanding the components of a resolution, conducting thorough research, and following a structured writing process, you can create a compelling document that advocates for meaningful solutions to global issues. Remember to remain flexible and open to feedback during the drafting process, as collaboration is a key aspect of MUN. With dedication and effort, you will be well on your way to crafting resolutions that resonate with your committee and contribute to productive discussions in the Model UN setting.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the structure of a Model UN resolution?

A Model UN resolution typically consists of a heading, preamble clauses, and operative clauses. The heading includes the committee name, the topic, and the sponsors. Preamble clauses provide background and rationale, while operative clauses outline the actions the committee proposes to take.

How do I effectively draft preamble clauses for my resolution?

To draft effective preamble clauses, start with phrases such as 'Recognizing', 'Acknowledging', or 'Affirming'. These clauses should highlight the importance of the issue and provide context. Use specific data or previous resolutions as references to strengthen your argument.

What tips can I use to create strong operative clauses?

To create strong operative clauses, use clear and direct language. Start with verbs like 'Encourages', 'Requests', or 'Calls for'. Make sure each clause is actionable, specific, and feasible. Aim for a mix of immediate actions and long-term strategies to address the issue.

How can I ensure my resolution addresses the concerns of all member states?

To ensure your resolution addresses the concerns of all member states, conduct thorough research on the positions and interests of different countries. Incorporate diverse perspectives into your operative clauses and aim for compromise solutions that can gain wider support.

What common mistakes should I avoid when writing a Model

UN resolution?

Common mistakes to avoid include using vague language, failing to cite sources in preamble clauses, and making unrealistic proposals in operative clauses. Additionally, ensure that the resolution is well-organized and free from grammatical errors to enhance clarity and professionalism.

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