

Presidential Debate Insight Checklist

So many words are spoken in a debate that we often have a hard time keeping track of what's most important to us. Use this form to see what you might otherwise miss.

Instructions

BEFORE In the form below, fill in the issues you care most about.	IMMEDIATELY BEFORE Review the key questions before you watch the debate. Add more issues if you like.	IMMEDIATELY AFTER Complete the form, taking care to be fair and honest.	DAY AFTER Review the news about the debate looking at many sources (including fact-checkers). Do NOT look only at the sources you normally view. Look at liberal, conservative, and moderate sources.
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KEY ISSUES FOR ME		Trump	Clinton
1.	Write your issue here before debate...	What did Trump say he'd do if elected?	What did Clinton say she'd do if elected?
2.	Write your issue here before debate...	What did Trump say he'd do if elected?	What did Clinton say she'd do if elected?
3.	Write your issue here before debate...	What did Trump say he'd do if elected?	What did Clinton say she'd do if elected?

KEY QUESTIONS		Trump	Clinton
1.	Is the candidate answering the questions asked, rather than changing the subject to avoid answering?	After debate add your notes here	After debate add your notes here
2.	Is the candidate helping to create a respectful tone, so that we the people can focus on the most critical issues?		
3.	Does the candidate make statements that are generally true—that avoid attempts to deceive us? If a candidate tells a lie or misstates something, is it likely to be related or unrelated to his or her future performance in office?		
4.	Is the candidate looking first to get his or her views across or merely trying to score points? Is he or she pointing out relevant differences or taking cheap shots?		
5.	Does the candidate talk specifics about what he or she will do when elected, or just talking in generalities?		
6.	Does the candidate demonstrate that he or she has relevant expertise and knowledge of key issues or does he or she focus only on surface-level talking points?		
7.	Does the candidate see the world in its true complexity, or do they oversimplify – using only “either-or” thinking?		
8.	Does the candidate inspire us as a nation to be as good as we can be, or do they merely repeat empty slogans (for example, freedom, equality, strength, diversity)?		
9.	Does the candidate advocate for all of us – or are some of us blamed, insulted, and written off unfairly?		
10.	Is the candidate knowledgeable on the most important issues for our country? Does he or she show a willingness to study the issues with energy, with an open mind, and a willingness to listen to citizens and experts?		

*Created by Will Thalheimer – a Citizen and a Learning Designer – Completely Unaffiliated with Either Candidate
Provide feedback on this form at <https://is.gd/debates2016>*

Presidential Debate Insight Checklist – Page Two – Optional

Use this page to add issues or key questions of your own choosing.

KEY ISSUES FOR ME		Trump	Clinton
4.		What did Trump say he'd do if elected?	What did Clinton say she'd do if elected?
5.		What did Trump say he'd do if elected?	What did Clinton say she'd do if elected?
6.		What did Trump say he'd do if elected?	What did Clinton say she'd do if elected?
7.		What did Trump say he'd do if elected?	What did Clinton say she'd do if elected?
8.		What did Trump say he'd do if elected?	What did Clinton say she'd do if elected?
KEY QUESTIONS		Trump	Clinton
11.	Add your own key questions below:	After debate add your notes here	After debate add your notes here
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			
16.			
17.			
18.			
19.			
20.			