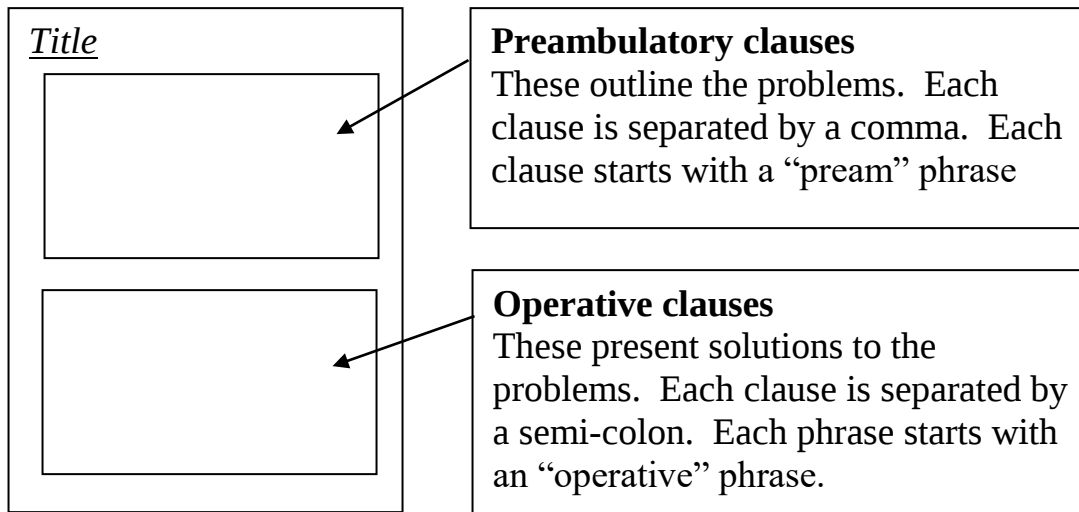


Royal Russell Guide to

WRITING A RESOLUTION

The basic structure of a resolution is shown below.



To see how a resolution is written, we shall look at a familiar problem. Consider making a journey using public transport. Some of the problems might be as follows:

- Buses and trains are overcrowded at rush hour.
- Buses and trains often do not keep to the timetable.
- It is difficult to travel on buses and trains if you are carrying lots of bags or other items.
- Buses and trains are sometimes cancelled.

These problems would be outlined in the **preambulatory section** of the resolution. There is a list of **preambulatory and operative phrases** at the end of this document.

The pream section of the resolution might read as follows:

Concerned that public transport is often overcrowded,
Noting that public transport often does not run to timetable,
Deeply concerned that public transport journeys are sometimes cancelled,
Further noting the difficulty of travelling by public transport while carrying lots of bags, equipment or other items,

Each phrase is indented 5 spaces and italicised. Each phrase can only be used once, although “Further” can be used with the same phrase again. For example you could have “Further noting”, but only if “Noting” has been used before.

The second part of the resolution consists of outlining how the problem could be solved. Clauses in the **operative section** start with **operative phrases** and they are numbered. All operative clauses are indented 5 spaces and underlined.

Returning to the problem of public transport we might decide on the following as answers. The problem of overcrowding might be overcome by running more services. Services can be delayed or cancelled because of failure in equipment (vehicles, engines, signals etc) or staff arriving late. This might be overcome by investing more in the upkeep of equipment, perhaps fining staff turning up late. Maybe the timetable could be improved so that one delayed service does not delay another. The question of how to deal with carrying lots of luggage is more of a problem. It does not matter if you do not have an answer – pass the buck – authorize the setting up of a group to investigate the problem. Some delegates try to find the most amusing acronym for such a group.

These ideas can then be put into a resolution.

1. Suggests that public transport companies run more services, particularly at peak time;
2. Further suggests that public transport companies invest more in providing an efficient service;
3. Recommends that sanctions against staff arriving late or failing to turn up are increased;
4. Authorises the setting up of the UN Enquiry into Public Transport, UNEPT, to recommend improvements to the public transport system;
5. Further recommends a review of timetabling of services to see if they can be run to time more consistently.

Please note: At Royal Russell Conference there is a maximum of 15 operative clauses (including sub-clauses) allowed.

The title of a resolution includes

- the name of the committee debating it,
- what the resolution is about (the question),
- the names of the submitters (the country of the person writing it),
- the names of the co-submitters (countries supporting it) and
- the UN body to which the committee reports (the GENERAL ASSEMBLY).

If the resolution has several pages,
each page is numbered in this way.

The title {

COMMITTEE: First Political
QUESTION OF: Public Transport
SUBMITTED BY: UK
CO-SUBMITTED BY: USA, France, Belgium, Jamaica, New
Zealand.

Page 1 of

Commas (,) separate
preambulatory clauses.
Initiating phrase
indented 5 spaces and
italicised.

Operative clauses are
numbered and separated
by a semi-colon (;).
All the operative
clauses are indented 5
spaces and underlined.
A full stop (.) is used
only at the very end of
the resolution.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Concerned that public transport is often overcrowded,
Noting that public transport often does not run to timetable,
Deeply concerned that public transport journeys are sometimes
cancelled,

Further noting the difficulty of travelling by public transport
while carrying lots of bags, equipment or other items,

1. Suggests that public transport companies run more
services, particularly at peak time;
2. Further suggests that public transport companies invest
more in providing an efficient service;
3. Recommends that sanctions against staff arriving late or
failing to turn up are increased;
4. Authorizes the setting up of the UN Enquiry into Public
Transport, UNEPT, to recommend improvements to the
public transport system;
5. Further recommends a review of timetabling of services
to see if they can be run to time more consistently.

Have a go at writing a resolution yourself. The best way to develop skill in writing a resolution is to try it.

Initiating phrases are given on the next page. If you want to use a phrase of your own, that is fine as long as it is the same grammatically.

“Demand” is a phrase which can only be used by the Security Council. Strong phrases such as “condemn” are best avoided as it requires a two thirds majority to pass a resolution containing them, rather than the normal simple majority.

During debate a resolution can be amended. If in debate you were asked a question that shows a weakness in the resolution, you can alter the resolution by making a “friendly amendment”. Other delegates can amend the resolution in open debate or in time against in a closed debate as an unfriendly amendment; this requires a vote to pass.

Introductory Phrases for Resolutions

Preambulatory phrases

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

Operative Clauses

Accepts	Further invites
Affirms	Further proclaims
Approves	Further recommends
Asks	Further resolves
Authorize	Further requests
Calls	Have resolved
Calls upon	Notes
Condemns	Proclaims
Congratulates	Reaffirms
Confirms	Recommends
Considers	Reminds
Declares accordingly	Regrets
Deplores	Requests
Draws attention	Solemnly affirms
Designates	Suggests
Emphasizes	Supports
Encourages	Takes note of
Endorses	Transmits
Expresses its appreciation	Trusts
Expresses its hope	Urges

Notes

If you have used the phrase "Requests" in your resolution, it cannot be used again. When you next want to request, you must use "Further requests".

The opening phrases given are commonly used, but others can be used as long as they have the same grammatical function.