Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, distinguished judges, esteemed teachers, and fellow students. It is my honor to welcome you to the annual debate competition. Today, we gather here to witness the power of words, the art of persuasion, and the celebration of knowledge and critical thinking.

This event provides an invaluable platform for young minds to express their ideas, challenge perspectives, and engage in intellectual dialogue. The participants have prepared diligently, and they are eager to showcase their skills in reasoning, analysis, and eloquence.

We are grateful to our judges, whose expertise and fairness will ensure a rewarding experience for all. Let's extend our appreciation to the organizers and volunteers who have worked tirelessly to make this event possible.

As we embark on today's debate, let us do so with an open mind and a spirit of respect for each other's viewpoints. I wish all the participants the very best and look forward to an enlightening and spirited competition. Thank you.