

# Holly and Alice's Girlboss Guide to Res Writing

## 1. Preambulatory clauses:

- This will include some background information about the topic in question.
- Ensure that these don't go over half a page if possible
- Use the information in the preambulatory clauses to preface/backup your points to come in the resolution (e.g. already existent resolutions/UN sub bodies on this topic).
- You will need some starting words at the beginning of each point, such as:

<i>Defines</i> <i>Noting with concern</i> <i>Acknowledging</i> <i>Recalling</i> <i>Reaffirming</i> <i>Viewing with appreciation</i> <i>Bearing in mind</i>	<i>Recalling</i> <i>Aware that</i> <i>Alarmed by</i> <i>Declaring</i> <i>Deeply concerned</i> <i>Recognising</i> <i>Considering</i>
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## Clause Structures

### 1. Headings:

Include the name of your committee, the topic in question and the submitters (and co submitters) at the top of your resolution all in bold.

For Example:

<b>TQO: the Humanitarian Crisis in Venezuela</b> <b>Committee: Human Rights Committee</b> <b>Submitted by: the United States of America</b>  <i>The Human Rights Committee,</i>
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### 2. Starters:

Use some of the following words to begin each operative clause. You may underline or put them in bold, keeping in mind you cannot use the same one twice: (feel free to add 'further' in front of any of the following if you wish to use the word twice)

<i>Suggests</i> <i>Urges</i> <i>Calls for</i> <i>Requests</i> <i>Encourages</i>	<i>Reminds</i> <i>Affirms</i> <i>Considers</i> <i>Recommends</i> <i>Emphasises</i>
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<i>Confirms</i> <i>Endorses</i> <i>Adopts</i> <i>(e.g. further suggests)</i>	<i>Calls upon</i> <i>Accepts</i> <i>Proposes</i>
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Security Council Operative Clause Starters (Can't be used in regular committee!!!)

<i>Demands</i> <i>Declares (Accordingly)</i> <i>Decides</i> <i>Condemns</i> <i>Designates</i> <i>Authorises</i> <i>Resolves</i>
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\*Remember that you should not be using any full stops anywhere in the resolution until the very end. At the end of each operative clause, use a semicolon (;) and a comma (,) at the end of any other clauses including subclauses.

Preambulatory clauses: why we're doing it

Operative clauses: what we're doing to solve it

**2. Subclauses:**

- Can be used in bullet points to make your argument clearer. It is usually more efficient to use subclauses rather than long paragraphs.
- **NEVER** have a clause with a single sub-clause
- You can also use sub-sub clauses that are represented using roman numerals (eg. i), ii), iii) etc.)

Here is an example:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Recommends</u> more rigorous testing and training of artificial intelligence to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Prevent human bias in artificial intelligence,</li> <li>b. Improve the effectiveness of artificial intelligence programmes,</li> <li>c. Aid in the implementation of overlooked safety procedures,</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p><b>Make sure you put a colon (:) before a list of sub clauses as shown.</b></p>
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## **Writing your operative clauses:**

### **National Stance:**

- One of the most important things to pay attention to whilst writing your resolution is your country's stance.
- MUN is based around the representation of specific countries and you should consider this in your arguments.
- This may mean arguing for something you don't believe in but which is supported by your country's beliefs.
- Research your country's views beforehand and observe the direction your country's government has taken on the issue in the past.
- Best way to do this is to enter the topic and then your country after it eg. Underage Marriage Mexico
- This is also very important in deciding what to write your resolution on as people can contradict you in committee no matter how good your res is

### **Other Existing Efforts**

- Finding out about what existing efforts that are out there can be helpful too.
- Check out what other countries have done on the topic.
- If you can, look into what non-governmental organisations (NGOs) exist in the field, as well as what actions they've been taking.
- This can provide you with ideas for solutions that can be introduced as operative clauses, help you expand on ones you already have, or give you extra knowledge to use during debate in committee.

### **Holly's Sticky Note Technique:**

- This is something that works for me but doesn't work for everyone
1. As you research the topic, look through articles and UN articles and then write the main problems on 1 sticky note each - These will be your operative clauses
  2. Put these sticky notes on a surface near where you work where they're easily visible and won't be touched - I use my wall or my desk
  3. Group the problems that are similar together - this is what makes the sticky notes good as you can move them
  4. As you begin to come up with ideas to solve the problem, replace the sticky notes with your solutions
  5. At the top, put your operative clause (the main part of the clause before the sub clauses) which I usually number so I don't get confused, and below it put your sub clauses in the order you want.

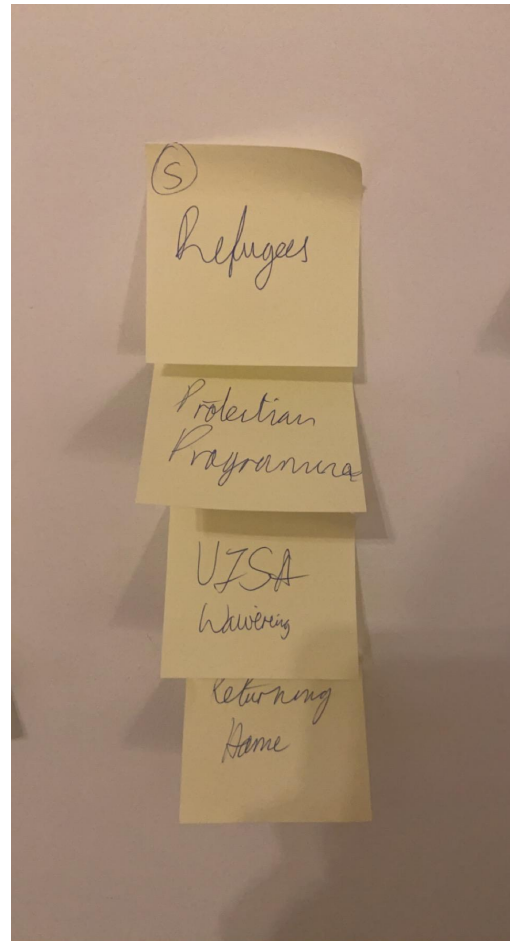
For Example:

The Operative Clause----->

Sub-Clause a) ----->

Sub-Clause b) ----->

Sub-Clause c) ----->



6. From here you can switch around and move things as you want until you're done, and get so excited to finish so you can rip this monstrosity off your wall (very satisfying)

### Resolution tips:

- Keep your clauses to the point, so that delegates can understand it and cannot argue that it is vague. Most of all, keep your points specific. This will also improve your chances of your resolution being chosen to debate as chairs don't like long, chunky resolutions
- If possible, give each new idea its own clause which will help you keep things concise and purposeful.
- Carry out research so that you can argue the points in your resolution well. Make sure that the sources you are using are reliable (so not Wikipedia) so you are well-prepared.

There are a lot of good resources on UN agencies websites, so, we would recommend trying to go there first

- Remember that operative clauses aren't binding outside Security Council, resolutions are simply suggesting or requesting member states to take action, only the security council can impose sanctions, send in peacekeepers or make more declarative statements.
- Ask others for peer review, they may notice something that doesn't make sense, that requires more details or may be illegal in your committee.

## **Illegal Things**

This is most important to take note of in committees

### **1. Deploying Peacekeepers**

- This is only a Security Council action, unfortunately and illegal in committee
- Only way you can use this is to refer the issue to the Security Council

### **2. Sanctions**

- Sanctions are a nice way to keep states in line and make sure things actually happen (because no one wants economic collapse), buttttt, as per usual, isn't allowed in normal committee
- Again we're going to the Security Council for this one

### **3. Laws of a Country**

- There's a fine line between what you can and can't do regarding the laws of a country due to *infringement of sovereignty*
- The only way to really make sure that it's not illegal is by using - **Expresses its hope / Hopes**
- You can't force a country to change its laws, so a sub-clause on sanctions if it's not done is illegal
  - Security Council or not

### **4. UN Watchdog**

- Yet another item that only the Security Council do
- It basically monitors situations for illegal activity