

Speech 1: Introductory Speech

Ms. Price
Speech I

Due Date: _____

Type of Speech: Speech to Inform or Entertain/Inspire

Time Limits: 1-2 (you will be cut off at 2 minutes)

Purpose: The purpose of this speech is for your teacher and class to get to know you, but not in a dry way...so take a risk, and be creative! The other purpose for this speech is for you to have your first opportunity to speak in front of the class. (You're not graded, so don't stress out about a grade!)

Objective: In completing this assignment, each student will:

- Organize familiar material in a format to present to others.
- Get a feel for presenting ideas in front of a group of peers.
- Experience speaking in front of an audience to become aware of aspects of effective delivery such as eye contact, volume, gestures, and vocal variety.

Assignment Summary: This is a two minute speech of self-introduction. The purpose of this assignment is to give you a chance to "break the ice" with the audience. Begin your speech by introducing yourself (name, grade, etc.) then develop the body of your speech according to one of the following descriptions:

Option #1: Personal Metaphor Speech

For this speech option, choose and bring in an object that has similar characteristics to yourself, and describe yourself in terms of that object. (Think: What words describe the object *and* also describe you?) If the object is too large to bring in (or is not allowed on campus, such as weapons or live animals), you may bring in a picture or a model. Remember, we are not interested in the object itself, but rather in what the object reveals about you. (**Note:** This is NOT a speech where you bring in an object that is important to you or has special significance in your life. Instead you must be more abstract than that and think of yourself AS an object.)

Option #2: Adult Impact Speech

Research indicates that adolescents *need* at least 5 caring adults in their lives. For this speech option, explain the following: Who are at least 3 of your 5? (parents only count as one) What have they taught you, or in what ways have they contributed to who you've become? (**Advice:** Talk about yourself, and not just the adults. Describe how they have impacted you.)

Option #3: Personal Storytelling Speech

For this speech option, you must humorously or passionately tell a true story from your life. Be sure to pull the parts of the story together in a cohesive manner, and also tell a moral of the story (*without* saying "the moral of the story is..."), so that the point you want the audience to learn about you is clear. (i.e. Your story should have a point!)

Option #4: Life Map Speech

For this speech option, you must create a visual (large enough for your audience) or a brochure (one for each audience member) that shows a timeline of your life with significant events indicated by words and/or pictures. Show and explain your visual to the audience in your speech. (**Advice:** Practice your speech *with* your visual so that you can work on audience focus while using your visual.)

Option #5: Your Birth Date Speech

Give a speech where you answer the question: What new and/or unusual events occurred on your birthday? Talk to your family or go to the library and read a newspaper from the day and year you were born. Create your speech by using information that you find interesting and that will tell the audience a little about who you are.

Advice from Price:

1. Plan the speech and rehearse it. You will want to leave the audience with a good impression of you. You also want to begin to get used to speaking with a time limit. (You will be cut off at two minutes, so prepare for that.)
2. Organize your ideas. Try to make sure the speech has an introduction, body, and a conclusion.
3. You may use notes, but you can NOT stand up there and read to us! (This is a SPEECH class. I am only interested in hearing you speak to us, NOT read to us. Notes are merely "helps" in speaking in front of an audience.)
4. Aim to address the audience with as much eye contact as possible.
5. Do not memorize your speech; it will sound false.

Assessment: This speech will give the chance to get some quick and simple feedback on some of your initial speaking strengths and weaknesses. You will NOT get a grade for this speech, since the purpose of this speech is experience and introduction only. However, I will give you feedback on the following, to use for future speeches:

Name: _____

- ___ Did the speaker have an introduction? ___ Body? ___ Conclusion?
- ___ Did the speaker express ideas in an orderly way?
- ___ Did the speaker maintain audience attention with content? ___ delivery?
- ___ Did the speaker have good eye contact with the audience?
- ___ Did the speaker avoid filling pauses with words such as "like," "you know" / "um," / "uh," / "and"?
- ___ Did the speaker use vocal variation?
- ___ Did the speaker use hands effectively?
- ___ Did the speaker use good posture and have a confident stance?
- ___ Did the speaker have facial animation?
- ___ Was the flow of words smooth and uninterrupted?
- ___ Did the speaker put the audience at ease?