

Sample Outline: Opinion Speech (Student Sample)

"Bible Thumpers"

I. Introduction

Let's play a little game. I'll show you an image, and in your mind, determine what is the FIRST thing you think of. [show images; final image = Bible] How many of you had positive thoughts for that final image? Negative? Neutral? Let's face it: the Bible generally evokes very strong emotions...whether positive or negative. In fact, millions of people over time have died...or killed...for this book. Now don't get me wrong, I have no problem with the bible, nor any other book of faith on which you base your religion. What I do have a problem with are those who base ALL of their opinions on this book, overlooking common sense and the fact that society has evolved. These conservative, right wingers spit out random numbers of obscure scriptures and quote passages written more than 2000 years ago. The problem is, ultra conservative believers don't realize the kind of right-winged nut jobs they associate themselves with.

KPrice 10/24/06 7:06 AM

Comment: Give your speech an interesting title.

KPrice 10/21/09 6:26 AM

Comment: I = Introduction
Be sure to type out your introduction WORD FOR WORD so that you have confidently planned out exactly how to begin your speech. Remember, we all make judgments based on first impressions. Make your first impression a good one! (Memorize & make eye contact!)

II. Biblical Radicals

A. Rev. Jerry Falwell

1. pastor of the 22,000 member Thomas Road Baptist Church
2. accused Tinky Winky of being gay
3. blamed 9-11 attacks on the gays, lesbians, the ACLU, pagans, abortionists, and the feminists.

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Comment: II = Topic

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Comment: A, B, & C = MAIN IDEAS/ARGUMENTS

B. Pat Robertson

1. host of the 700-club (a popular T.V. show that has been on since 1966)
2. the leader of the Christian Coalition
3. Quotes

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Comment: Subtopics MUST be PHRASES...NOT complete sentences. They are just there to REMIND you of the order during your speech. They are NOT there to "LIST" off to us!!!

a. "You say you're supposed to be nice to the Episcopalians and the Presbyterians and the Methodists and this, that, and the other thing. Nonsense. I don't have to be nice to the spirit of the Antichrist. I can love the people who hold false opinions but I don't have to be nice to them."

b. "Just like what Nazi Germany did to the Jews, so liberal America is now doing to the evangelical Christians.....It is the Democratic Congress, the liberal-based media and the homosexuals who want to destroy the Christians. Wholesale abuse and discrimination and the worst bigotry directed toward any group in America today. More terrible than anything suffered by any minority in history."

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Comment: You can write out sentences on your outline ONLY IF it is a direct quote. (i.e. You are not expected to "memorize" direct quotations that you intend to use in your speech)

C. David Koresh

1. joined the Branch Davidians in 1981 (became leader in 199)
2. changed name to Koresh
3. ATF & FBI issued a warrant for him in 1993
 - a. illegal weapons
 - b. child abuse
4. The stand that followed lasted 51 days
 - a. ended with the burning of the complex
 - b. killed Koresh and 74 other followers (21 children)

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Comment: Outlining Rule: Where there is a 1, there must be a 2, and where there is an A (or a) there must be a B (or b).

III. Conclusion

So, I ask you, before you go defending of your little insignificant point of views and opinions with the Bible, think of three names: Falwell, Robertson, and Koresh.

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Comment: Write out your conclusion word for word. Again, it's so that you know exactly what you want to say, but you DON'T READ your conclusion!