

## **Hear Ye, Hear Ye: The Speech of All Speeches**

A good speech, like a good essay, is designed to convince the listener (or reader) to agree with the speaker's position. And, like a good essay, a convincing speech uses both argumentation and persuasion.

### **The Assignment:**

Write and present an argumentative-persuasive speech to the class regarding a topic of your choice. In presenting your speech, your goal is to convince your audience to agree with your stated position. Use both argumentation and persuasion to accomplish this.

### **Research and Pre-writing:**

Step 1: Select a topic that interests you and that you feel passionate about.

Step 2: Write a research question about your topic or begin with a general thesis statement. For example, you may wish to ask "Should students wear uniforms in public school?" or state "Students should not be required to wear uniforms at a public school". (Please note, that at some point in the research process, you must have a specific thesis statement.)

Step 3: Use the internet or other resources to research your question or thesis statement. Take notes. Also, note the source for later reference.

Step 4: If you have not already done so, create a thesis statement for your speech.

### **Writing the Speech:**

Step 5: Use your notes to write an argumentative-persuasive speech. In writing your speech, be sure to use logical arguments, facts, examples, and persuasive techniques to convince your audience. Remember, you are trying to convince people to agree with your thesis statement.

Step 6: Practice your speech. Re-write your speech and edit it where necessary.

### **Practice and Present your Speech:**

Step 7: Continue to practice your speech. You may want to make cue cards or underline key concepts in your speech to help you deliver it. It is best simply not to read your speech in front of the class.

Step 8: Present your speech to the class.

## Marking Criteria:

Introduction (6 marks):

A **hook** is present: use an anecdote, an interesting fact, or a quote that gets your listener interested in your topic. If you are using a quote or statistic, you need to make it clear why you are using it. (See your essay notes for different types of introductions.)

A **divided thesis statement**: a one sentence statement regarding the purpose of your speech, and that informs the reader of your main arguments/reasons. It should be the last sentence of your introduction. (Review your notes on essay writing.)

Body (12 marks):

**Two paragraphs** (inductive and/or deductive). Each paragraph has a clear **topic sentence**. Each paragraph has relevant **supporting points** and **proof** (e.g., facts, examples, logical arguments, quotations, etc.) Provide **explanations and analysis** of your proof; i.e., it must be clear to the listener how your proof supports your claim in the topic sentence and thesis statement. For each paragraph, provide a **concluding sentence** (not a summary).

Conclusion (2 marks):

Tie together the important points in the speech and leave the reader with a clear understanding of your position and argument.

State what you hope the listener learned, or will do after having listened to your speech. (Review your essay notes for different types of conclusions.)

References:

As this is a speech you are not required to mention your references. However, after your speech, you must submit a bibliography (a list of references) to the teacher.

Length of Speech: 2 to 3 minutes