

Public Speaking Assignment

Demonstration Speech

The purpose of this speech is to demonstrate a particular process to your audience. You are encouraged to select topics that are useful and interesting, but remember they need to be legal and appropriate for a college classroom in California. You will need to turn in complete preparation and speaking outlines, while the speech itself should be delivered extemporaneously from the brief speaking outline. The time limit for this speech is 5:00-6:00.

Evaluation will focus on such basic matters as establishing eye contact, avoiding distracting mannerisms, formulating a sharp specific purpose statement, fulfilling the functions of an introduction and conclusion, limiting main points and arranging them properly, and employing connectives effectively. The use of a visual aid is required for this speech.

You should make sure you present the steps of the process clearly and systematically, leaving out none of the essential steps along the way. In all but a few cases, your speech will fall naturally into chronological order. You do not need to demonstrate the entire process, but you should demonstrate any significant or crucial steps in the procedure. Be sure to follow the guidelines for visual aids discussed in Chapter 13, and pay special attention to the section on speeches about processes in Chapter 14. If you are using PowerPoint, be sure to follow the guidelines for PowerPoint explained on pages 349-369 of the textbook. Grading for the speech will be based on the following questions:

1. Does the speech conform to the kind of speech assigned?
2. Is the speech ready for presentation on the assigned date?
3. Did the speech conform to the time limit?
4. Did the speech fulfill any special requirements of the assignment such as preparing an outline, using visual aids, conducting an interview, etc.?
5. Did the speech have a clear specific purpose and central idea?
6. Did the speech have an identifiable introduction, body, and conclusion?
7. Did the speech show reasonable directness and competence in delivery?
8. Was the speech free of serious errors in grammar, pronunciation, and word usage?
9. Did the speech deal with a challenging topic?
10. Did the speech fulfill all major functions of a speech introduction and conclusion?
11. Did the speech display clear organization of main points and supporting materials?
12. Did the speech support main points with evidence that meets the tests of accuracy, relevance, objectivity, and sufficiency?
13. Did the speech exhibit proficient use of connectives—transitions, internal previews, internal summaries, and signposts?
14. Was the speech delivered skillfully enough so as not to distract attention from the speaker's message?
15. Did the speech constitute a genuine contribution by the speaker to the knowledge or beliefs of the audience?
16. Did the speech sustain positive interest, feeling, and/or commitment among the audience?
17. Did the speech contain elements of vividness and special interest in the use of language?
18. Was the speech delivered in a fluent, polished manner that strengthens the impact of the speaker's message?