

Informative Speech Assignment

Please write a 4 – 8 minute speech on a topic that is informative and engaging for your audience.

Requirements:

- 4 – 8 minutes
- Keyword Outline
- Research
- Works Cited
- Reference research within the speech

Step 1: choose an engaging **topic** that is relevant and important to your audience.

Step 2: do research. Please use only legitimate sources. You may use Wikipedia to start, but I should not hear you say, “According to Wikipedia. . . .” If you find good info on Wikipedia, go find it somewhere else that has more credibility.

Good Places to do Research:

EbscoHost – Student Resource Center (on library’s website); NYTimes.com; Mental Floss Magazine; <http://www.howstuffworks.com/> (especially their podcasts); NPR.org (mostly audio); TED (video); <http://www.guardian.co.uk/>; time.com; Wired.com; businessweek.com; company websites

Step 3: Organize your information into three categories. There is sequential organization, topical organization.

For example:

History / Origin, Application, implication

History, importance, possibilities

History, importance, future

Origin, significance, how it impacts us

Origin, why we do it, why it is important

Step 4: Write out your speech in essay format.

*Introduction:

- Start with an attention getter (personal story, interesting statistic, and so forth).
- Link attention-getter to thesis
- Thesis
- Preview of main points.

- First let's examine the history of _____. Then we look at the importance of _____; and finally, we will look to what _____ holds for us in the future.

*Body paragraphs.

- Start body paragraphs with transition.
 - Let's begin by examining the history of _____.
- Provide information from research. Be sure to include phrases such as "according to."
- *Make sure that you explain the information.
- Try to include information from you that helps us understand what you are talking about. For instance, include analogies. Perhaps define words that might be difficult for us to understand.
- Repeat and emphasize important information.

*Conclusion:

- Summarize Main points.
- Restate thesis.
- Round off – refer back to the attention getter.

Step 5: go back through your speech and look for places to add **rhetorical devices**:

- Alliteration
- Assonance
- Similes
- Metaphors
- Onomatopoeia
- Rhetorical questions
- Repetition

Step 6: read your **speech** aloud a few times and make sure it sounds good.

Step 7: write your **outline** from your written speech

Step 8: Practice your speech

- Think about what you are going to do with your arms, eyes, and voice.
- Think about places to pause