



Welcome to Speech Class!

Instructor: Mrs. Klosterman
4th Period—2019-2020 School Year

Contact Information: Parents and students may contact me as needed:

Phone: 419-647-4111 ext. 3248

Email: klostermane@svbearcats.org

Webpage: <http://klosterklass.pbworks.com>

Course Description: This class concentrates on various elements of public speaking. The biggest task is to overcome stage fright when speaking in front of peers. Building confidence and developing poise are goals of this course, as are speaking with vocal variety, effectively employing non-verbal communication skills, developing and organizing various speeches for multiple purposes, and employing good listening skills while others are presenting. Practice is very important in this class since rehearsing the speeches aloud is the best way to overcome nervousness. Practice may not make perfect, but practice certainly makes progress!

Materials Needed: Each day you will need your textbook, a binder, lined and hole punched notebook paper, writing utensils (pencils and blue or black pens), a highlighter, post-it notes, and **plenty** of lined note cards (any color).

Grading Procedure: Each speech is worth points, and most preparatory work is also worth points; however, speech and presentation grades will account for the majority of the course grade. On presentation days, the instructor will use a grading rubric for the speech being presented and make comments/suggestions based on your speech as you present. At the end of the class or once all presenters have finished, your grading rubric will be returned, and you will have the opportunity to assess your growth as a public speaker and your goals for improvement.

Attendance / Presentation Policy: Any work missed due to an absence is still required to be completed.

Rules: Be respectful and responsible at all times. Be a good listener and audience member when others are speaking, and perform to your best ability when you are speaking. Provide classmates with constructive feedback and praise for a job well done.
BE KIND, CONSIDERATE, AND OPEN-MINDED. HAVE FUN!!!

The following speeches may be assigned throughout this course:

- 1. Introductory Speech:** Introduce yourself to your audience. Tell us about your childhood, family, hobbies, interests, future goals, etc.
- 2. Personal Experience Speech:** Share with your audience a detailed account of a real-life experience.
- 3. Pet Peeve Speech:** List and explain your biggest pet peeves and why they annoy you.
- 4. Oral Interpretation of Literature:** Present a poem or a short story to the class, using a variety of inflection and body movement, which will contribute to the interpretation of the literature being presented.
- 5. Informative Speech:** Research a topic of interest to you and present the findings to your audience using a PowerPoint, Sway, or Prezi presentation as a visual aid.
- 6. Demonstration Speech:** Show your audience how to do something by actually demonstrating it in front of your audience.
- 7. Sales Pitch / Infomercial:** Create a fictitious product or service to sell to the class, or campaign for election to a public office. Devise background information on your education, skills, work experience, company, product or service, advantages of the product or service, etc. This will involve a brief study of propaganda techniques that will be used in presenting your sales pitch or infomercial.
- 8. Impromptu Speech:** Select a random topic, prepare briefly, and present a short speech without much preparation. This speech will test your ability to think on your feet! You will present an impromptu speech multiple times throughout this course.
- 9. Self Improvement Speech:** What do you need to improve upon in your public speaking? What growth have you achieved thus far? What goals can you set for yourself? How do you plan on reaching those goals?
- 10. Persuasive Speech:** Persuade your audience to think, do, or believe something. Use facts and emotional appeals to aid in your persuasive goal.
- 11. Debate:** Research a controversial topic, prepare a case for your side of the argument using evidence and reasoning, and go head-to-head with a classmate who supports the opposite side of the topic in a formal debate. This will involve a brief study of formal debate guidelines that will be used in presenting your debate.
- 12. Entertainment Speech:** Entertain the class in one of many ways. Be a comedian, perform a lip synch, present a humorous monologue, perform a scene or skit, share a funny story, or tell about an embarrassing moment.
- 13. Additional speeches (or repeats of some of the above listed speeches) may be presented as requested and as time allows.**

Impromptu Speech Topics: Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of topics. The class may generate additional topics to add to this list throughout the course.

In this speech assignment, I will assess you according to your ability to do the following: remain poised under pressure; deliver a coherent speech on one of the following topics (which you will choose at random); maintain good posture and clear vocal projection and diction; and introduce, transition, and conclude effectively with little or no preparation time. I will never force you to speak about a topic with which you are uncomfortable.

1. Who is the person you admire most and why?
2. What are your biggest fears and/or phobias and why?
3. Describe your ideal mate and tell why you feel that way.
4. If you could begin your life again, would you do anything differently? Why?
5. If you could meet any person past or present and spend a day with him/her, who would you choose and why?
6. If you could travel or move anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?
7. What do you think is the most serious problem in the school/town/region/state/nation/world today? What can people do about it?
8. What is your most prized possession and/or memory and why?
9. What is your dream job? Describe it and explain why.
10. What is your favorite sport? What are the rules of the game? How is it played?
11. What is your most impressive talent? How did you learn it and who, if anyone, taught you? Has it ever come in useful for you?
12. Describe a time when you learned from a mistake, and tell how it changed you.
13. How do you want to be remembered? What legacy do you want to leave?
14. What is your definition of courage or heroism?
15. If you could be projected into a video game or a movie, which one would you choose to be a part of and why? What would you want to experience?
16. If you were only able to choose one adventure to go on or experience before death, what adventure would you choose to take or experience?
17. If I won the lottery, I would spend my money in the following ways....
18. If I could be a certain age forever, it would be ... because
19. If I were a Super Hero, I would be My super power(s) would be ... because
20. In the future, I foresee ... because
21. When I imagine myself 10 years from now, I foresee I plan on achieving this by
22. If I could go back in time and visit myself at an earlier age, I would give the following advice to myself ... because
23. One of the problems in our society that concerns me the most is ... because A possible solution to this problem is
24. The personal achievement I am most proud of is ... because
25. The expression, slogan, or motto that best describes me/my personality/my attitude/life/etc. is ... because
26. A character trait I want to develop in myself is ... because
27. The social cause that means the most to me is ... because
28. If I could travel back in time, I'd go to the ... period because
29. My opinion on the _____ policy/law/etc. in our school/city/state/nation/etc. is ... because
30. A debatable topic that I feel strongly about is ... because I believe ... because
- 31.
- 32.
- 33.

Formal Speech Scoring Rubric: Self-assess for each speech, regardless of the type of speech.

INTRODUCTION, SUBJECT, & PURPOSE	The introduction is creative, the subject and purpose are appropriate for the audience, and the main point is clear. The thesis statement is specific, focused on the assigned task, and well-phrased. The intro transitions smoothly into the body of the speech.	_____ / 5 pts.
DETAILS, SUPPORT, DEVELOPMENT, EXAMPLES, & ORGANIZATION	The body of the speech is strong: support and development of details and examples (facts) and logical reasoning (emotional appeals) are appropriate, focused, and well organized with effective, thoughtful, and abundant transitions. Any visual aids used are appropriate, helpful for understanding, and presented effectively.	_____ / 10 pts.
DELIVERY: PHYSICAL (STAGE PRESENCE)	The presenter uses good posture, inclusive eye contact, appropriate gestures, and effective platform movement. The presenter is energetic and dynamic. Body language expresses confidence and competence.	_____ / 5 pts.
DELIVERY: VOCAL (STAGE PRESENCE)	The presenter uses a good speaking rate and volume, vocal emphasis, vocal variety (no monotone), and few or no vocal fillers or vocalized pauses. The speaker's voice expresses confidence and competence.	_____ / 5 pts.
CLOSING STATEMENT	The closing statement summarizes the subject, purpose, and main point. It is memorable and creative while remaining focused, and it returns "full-circle" to the thesis statement.	_____ / 5 pts.
PROFESSIONAL DEMEANOR	The speaker demonstrates a professional demeanor during the speech. All elements of the presentation are appropriate for school and in line with the assignment's expectations.	_____ / 5 pts.
TIME LIMIT	The presenter meets expectations for the time limit: _____ - _____ minute range. Each 15 seconds below the time limit and each 30 seconds above the time limit results in a 1-point reduction.	_____ / 5 pts.
	TOTAL POINTS:	_____ / 40 pts.

Point Values:

0 = missing 1 = poor 2 = unsatisfactory 3 = above average 4 = good 5 = excellent

PASS / FAIL NOTE (VERY IMPORTANT):

Any presentation score of less than 26 points will require a "re-do" on the part of the presenter in order to earn passing credit. Nobody is allowed to fail speech class! If you perform below you own standards and wish to re-do any speech, please ask for another chance. This class is an elective you chose, so I want it to benefit YOU!