

English 9 Trimester B Performance Task:
Persuasive Speech Overview

Assignment

Construct and deliver a 2-5 minute persuasive speech in which you present an argument or opinion and provide reasons, evidence, and persuasive appeals to persuade your audience into sharing your opinion.

Criteria

Your persuasive speech must

- ...be on a school appropriate topic.
- ...be respectful toward your peers and their differing beliefs.
- ...make a clear argument or opinion.
- ...provide evidence to support the argument or opinion.
- ...include appeals toward logic, emotions, and / or credibility.
- ...recognize and respond to opposing views.
- ...be delivered in a formal speaking style.

Extras

- Borrowed information must be correctly cited.
- Evidence of rehearsal must be exhibited.
 - To ensure you are adequately rehearsed, perform your piece during allocated class time, perform your piece in front of different peers and different group sizes (partnered, small group, large group, etc), and continue to practice at home.
- You may outline your speech on note cards and use this outline in the delivery of your speech. You should not write your speech on your note cards.

Topic Selection

These are possible broad categories for topics:

- Current events and policies: National
- Current events and policies: Local
- School improvement ideas
- Commercial Product Promotion, Complaint, or Improvement.
- Business Promotion, Complaint, or Improvement.
- Award Nomination (ESPY, OSCAR, GRAMMY, HEISMAN, COACH OF THE YEAR)
- Best (quarterback of all time, cellist of all time, protagonist in a book/movie)
- Who's to Blame (Could be in a story [AKA Romeo and Juliet], a current event, a loss, etc).

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Persuasive Speech Rubric

	Sophisticated (95)	Proficient (85)	Developing (70)	Insufficient (55)
Organization (Clear argument and transitions adapted to speaking)	Argument is clearly communicated and it provides a clear path to follow during the speech. Transitions make the argument clear and easy to follow	Argument is communicated in the introduction of the speech, but it does not provide a clear path for following the speech. Transitions allow the argument to be followed	Argument is mentioned but remains vague or is unclear in general. Pathway for following the speech is misleading or missing. The argument can be mostly followed, but is sometimes lost due to poor or absent transitions	Argument is missing, misleading, or overly vague making it difficult to follow the speaker. Presentation lacks transitions and/or organization
Supporting Details	Speech is developed with evidence / reasons (researched and/or non-researched) that clearly support(s) the argument. Speaker clearly connects the evidence / reasons to their argument.	Speech contains some evidence / reasons (researched and/or non-researched) that support(s) the argument. Speaker somewhat connects the evidence / reasons to their argument.	Speech has limited evidence / reasons (researched and/or non-researched) that somewhat support(s) the argument. Speaker connects the evidence/ reasons to their argument, but their connection is insufficient and/or vague.	Speech is missing or lacks evidence / reasons (researched and/or non-researched) and/or their evidence/reasons are unrelated to their argument. Speaker does not connect the evidence / reasons they may have to their argument, or their connection does not make sense for their argument.
Persuasive Techniques (Logical and emotional appeals, acknowledgement and address of opposing viewpoints)	Speaker skillfully uses both logical and emotional appeals to persuade their audience. Opposing viewpoints are acknowledged and effectively challenged.	Speaker uses both logical and emotional appeals to persuade their audience, but their use is limited and is somewhat unconvincing. Opposing viewpoints are acknowledged but are ineffectively challenged.	Speaker uses one type of persuasion (either appeals or acknowledging and addressing opposing view points) OR Inappropriately uses logical and/ or emotional appeals to persuade their audience. AND Opposing viewpoints are vaguely acknowledged and challenged.	Speaker does not use persuasive techniques. OR Speaker only uses one type of persuasive technique and it is done inappropriately.
Elements of Formal Speaking (Pacing, Body Control, Eye Contact)	Pace and pausing enhance points, and feel natural and purposeful Eye contact engages individuals in multiple areas of the room Posture is confident and controlled.	Pace and pausing clarify points, but may at times feel rigid or awkward Eyes address (but may not engage) individuals in multiple areas of the room Posture is controlled but may seem rigid	Pace and pausing may lack variety or clear purpose Eye contact may be inconsistent Posture may not be entirely controlled (shifting weight, crossing feet, etc.)	Pace and pausing have no variety, or are dictated by insufficient rehearsal Eye contact is rarely made Posture is uncontrolled or overly casual
Holistic	4	3	2	1