



Speak Up!

Lesson 5 - Writing a speech

Objective: to learn how to write a speech using engaging literary techniques

Materials needed: white board, markers, timer or stopwatch

Lesson plan:

1. Greet students
2. Ask the students to get into pairs and write a checklist of speech structure as a starter activity. Give them 5 minutes to do so, then ask them for their structures. You can also write their answers on a whiteboard.
3. Get them to think of the potential ways to start a speech - ask each person to think of at least one. The ways to start a speech can include:
 - rhetorical question
 - actual question
 - short story
 - quote
 - interesting fact
 - shocking statistic
4. Choose a speech topic then ask the group about the potential speech starters they could use to start a speech about your chosen topic. Challenge them to use all six speech opener types. You can repeat this activity with different topics until they can quickly think of ways to start a speech.



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Lesson plan:

5. List to them the literary techniques that can be used in the body of a speech to make it interesting, such as:
 - alliteration
 - statistics
 - triples
 - anecdotes
 - examples
 - humour + jokes
6. Ask them to think of a speech they think is impactful or inspiring, then choose a paragraph of the speech to analyse. You can project it onto a screen or write it on a whiteboard. Separate the group into pairs and ask them to identify the literary techniques that speech uses.
7. Tell them about the three key components of a compelling speech: ethos (trust & credibility), pathos (emotion), and logos (logic & reasoning). Ask them how they can demonstrate each one:
 - Ethos: confidence in your delivery, sources, statistics
 - Pathos: stories, quotes, experiences, emotive language
 - Logos: structure, examples and case studies, multiple viewpoints



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Lesson plan:

8. Divide them into two groups: speakers and listeners. Choose a topic and pair each speaker with a listener. The speaker must give a 1 minute speech about the topic using the literary techniques and speech components they learnt. Then, the speakers and listeners switch roles. You can also get them to switch partners a few times to repeat the activity.
9. Choose a volunteer to read the following speech, while the rest of the group has to listen and explain why the speech was badly written:

176% of people are left-handed. They use their left hand to write and do stuff I guess. The rarity of left-handedness is that a genetic mutation in our distant past caused the language centres to get big? My friend's aunt's sister's stepbrother's dog's fish is left-handed. I think that is really cool and awesome. It is as cool as a cucumber! I wish that when I grow up I will be left-handed. Statistically speaking, left-handed people are more likely to develop multicellular osmosis of the cerebellum. The End.