

Lesson Name : 15

Lesson Title : Debatable Topic Speech: Giving the Speech

Course Name : English 2 Part 2 [Honors]

Task Id : 53176654

Course Id : 15020



Essential Instruction

In this lesson, you will finish the project in which you give a short speech defending your position on a debatable topic. Previously, you completed a questionnaire about the topics for the speech and wrote a draft of your speech. The final step of the project is to finalize and give your speech.

Before you begin, you should open the draft of your speech and review any feedback that you received from your teacher. You should also review the [rubric](#) for this step of the project.

Step 3 Overview

This part of the project has two components. First, you will revise and edit your speech to create a polished final draft. Second, you will record yourself delivering the speech. This step of the project should demonstrate your ability to revise and edit your work as well as give an effective, engaging speech.

Follow the directions in the lesson to complete the final draft and deliver your speech.

Tips for Revising and Editing Your Speech

Revising and editing by using both feedback and your own skill as a writer are essential parts of any writer's work.

A key part of this process is taking some time away from your work before you revise and edit. Hopefully it has been at least a day or two since you finished your draft. If it hasn't, you should still take some time away from your work. Wait for your teacher to provide feedback on your draft. Go do something fun, work on assignments for another class, or read a book. Use this time to clear your head before you begin the work of revising and editing. When some time has passed, you can begin this step of the project.

When you begin, you may find it helpful to save your final draft with a different file name before you begin to revise and edit. This way, if you change something and later decide you preferred the original version, you have both the draft and the final copy. An easy way to differentiate is to use the same file name, but add *_final copy* to the new version so you know which is which.

What should you look for as you revise and edit? Your teacher's feedback will give you a good place to start, but you should also consider these questions as you assess your work.

Focus

- Did you focus on one of the five assigned topics? These are the topics that were listed on the [questionnaire](#) that you completed previously.
- Did you clearly state your claim in the introduction? You should state this claim without using the words *I agree*, *I disagree*, or *in my opinion*. Make your point clearly and succinctly.

Content

- Did you include an attention grabbing statement that effectively introduces your claim? Make sure that this attention grabber is connected to the rest of your speech and that it flows naturally into the introduction.
- Did you introduce your claim in a thoughtful, engaging manner?
- Did you provide three distinct pieces of supporting evidence?
- Did you explain how each piece of evidence supports your claim? You should always explain how your evidence proves your point.
- Did you acknowledge at least one counterargument? Remember, a counterargument is an argument that the opposing viewpoint would use. You should acknowledge it in a respectful manner before you disprove it. Make sure that you clearly introduce it as a counterclaim by using transition words and phrases.
- Did you refute the counterargument in a respectful manner? Although you want to disprove this claim to your audience, you should do so with thoughtful, well-crafted arguments rather than insults or false claims.
- Did you summarize the key points in your conclusion? You should use different words to review your claim and your main ideas.
- Does your conclusion include a call to action or overview of the larger implications of the claim? Remember, it's more effective to end with a bang than a whimper.

Organization

- Do you have an introduction (one paragraph), a body (multiple paragraphs), and a conclusion (one paragraph)? Although you will deliver your speech as an audio presentation, you will be turning in your written work as well. Make sure that it is organized into paragraphs that progress in this natural order.
- Does the information in the speech progress in a logical manner? Think about the order in which you structured your supporting evidence and counterargument. Make sure that it builds to make a point and that you aren't jumping back and forth between topics.

Style

- Did you take care with your word choice and sentence structure to improve clarity and tone? Be careful to use words that communicate your point strongly and clearly. Try to vary your sentence structure so your speech doesn't sound choppy or monotonous.
- Did you avoid unnecessary repetition? In a persuasive speech, repetition can be used to effectively convey a point, but make sure that you aren't being redundant or overly repetitious. For instance, if you describe something as *good* multiple times, you might want to use a different adjective.

Conventions

- Is everything spelled correctly? Use a spell-check program. Then reread your work and look for homophones (words that sound the same but have different meanings and spellings, such as *there*, *their*, and *they're*).
- Did you eliminate any typos? Look for extra characters or spaces that you may have typed by accident. Check to make sure that your word processing program didn't autocorrect something and mistakenly change a word you meant to use to a different word.

- Is your punctuation correct? Check to make sure that you have end punctuation for each sentence and that you used commas, apostrophes, semicolons, and other punctuation correctly.

Take your time as you revise and edit. Make thoughtful decisions based on your teacher's feedback and your own assessment of your work. After you have made changes, you might want to ask a peer or family member to read your work and tell you what they think. Remember, you can repeat this process multiple times if necessary.

Once you are finished revising and editing and feel satisfied with the final product, you can move on to the next step of the project.

Giving the Speech

In order to give your speech, you will need to be able to record audio. You may have a program on your computer that you can use to do this. A recording option is available in the assessment if you don't have an alternative way to record. This [file](#) explains how to use this option.

Before you record your speech, however, you will need to do a few other things.

First, you should practice delivering your speech. Remember, the speech that you are delivering is the final draft that you just completed. Although you are welcome to read directly from your paper, don't forget to make this an engaging experience for your audience. Here are a few tips to keep in mind:

- Think about the tone you want to set in your speech. Use your inflection to help indicate this tone to the reader.
- Practice giving the speech to a family member or friend. Use this opportunity to practice using pauses, eye contact, volume, posture, and emphasis. Even though this is only an audio recording, practicing this speech as if you were giving it at a public event will help you deliver it in the correct manner.
- Make sure to mark places where you hesitate or stumble over your words. These are places that you may need to revise your writing further to achieve the clarity and natural speaking tone you need for the speech.

Practice reading your speech until you feel that you can give it confidently. Remember, practice makes perfect.

Once you are finished practicing, record yourself giving the speech. Try to do this in a quiet place with few distractions to minimize noise in the background. Remember, for this assignment, you only need an audio recording of your speech.

After you finish recording, listen to the recording. Make note of any places where you stumbled, spoke too quietly, or paused too long. Practice rereading these parts aloud.

Now try again. Record your speech a second time and repeat the process. You may repeat this as many times as necessary until you feel confident about your work.

Prepare to Turn in Your Work

Once you are satisfied with both your final draft and your recording, prepare to turn in your work. Depending on how you recorded your speech, you may first need to upload the audio file to your computer. Make sure to save the file in a location that you can easily access. You may want to double-check that the file will play on your computer.

If you recorded the speech by using a program on your computer, save your work in a location you can easily access. Use a clear, descriptive file name when saving your work.

When you reach the assessment, you will upload both the audio file and your final draft for your teacher to grade. If you're planning to record your speech when you reach the assessment, you can complete that step of this process at that point.

As always, if you have any questions as you work on this lesson, please contact your teacher.