

Oratory Speech Outline

Attention Getter

This is the opening of your speech. This should be something that grabs the audience's attention. This could be a quotation, a story, a stunning statistic. Sometimes people utilize humor or shocking fact to grab the attention. Be creative! Obviously, what you open with should pertain to your topic.

Justification Statement

This is a sentence or two that justifies to your audience why they should care about your topic. Think of your audience, the range of gender, age, race, etc. Why is what you are persuading us about something important to each of us? Sometimes a statistic helps here.

Creditability Statement

This statement goes hand in hand with your Justification Statement. This statement backs up your Justification Statement. If you claim everyone needs should care about your topic, this statement is a statistic or source that helps prove your assertion.

Thesis

This is your topic sentence for your speech. Your thesis should state your purpose. It should state what you are persuading about and demand the attention of the audience by asserting that your topic is important. It also should state why your topic is a problem.

Preview

Here is where you outline what you will be talking about in your speech for the audience. First, second, third points, etc should be laid out in sentence form so that the audience has a preview of when you will discuss what.

Transition 1

A sentence where you transition into your first point, introduce it here.

Main Point 1 – Problem

Describe what the problem is where we are seeing it now. Give us the background on what your argument is. You will want 2-3 different examples/issues your topic causes.

Transition 2

A sentence where you state what you just went over and transition into your second point.

Main Point 2 – Cause/Effect

This point should explain why the problem you are presenting is a problem. Why is it happening? What is causing this to be a problem? There may be multiple causes. What is the effect of these causes? This could be split into two points if necessary.

Transition 3

A sentence where you state what you just went over and transition into your third point.

Main Point 3 - Solutions

This point is where you explore and present your plan of action of how we can solve the problem. You need to present solutions that fall into, roughly, the following categories:

- National/Country-wide: what can we do as a country to solve this?
- State/Local/School District – how can we solve this in our own community?
- Personal – What can every person in the room do on an individual basis to help solve the problem?

Review

Here you essentially restate your preview and restate all of the points that you went over.

Thesis

Restate exactly (or reword if you want) your thesis statement

Tie-Back

This is the conclusion of your speech. Any lasting impressions you want to give should be here. The Tie-Back should also relate to whatever your attention getter was.

REMEMBER

- You need to have sources and research for your speech. A works cited page in proper MLA format is also required. The suggested number of sources is 6-10, depending on the length of your speech.