

Special Occasion Speech Rubric

Assignment Description

Special Occasion Speech: Construct and deliver a 2-3 minute special occasion speech to introduce, commemorate, praise, condemn, pay tribute, nominate, dedicate, or entertain your audience. You may exercise your creativity on this assignment. You must be engaging at all times. You will be evaluated on your ability to adapt to your chosen occasion. See below for other criteria.

Rubric

An **"A"** speech will contain 3 distinct parts: an introduction, body and conclusion. The occasion will be effectively communicated to the audience via embedded reference. Content is appropriate for the type of speech and focuses on the occasion. Delivery is polished and professional with minimal awkward pauses, verbal stumbles, or vocal fillers. Nonverbal elements communicate confidence, poise and credibility to the audience. The topic and occasion chosen by the speaker reflect creativity and thoughtfulness. The speech will be within time limits. Overall, an "A" speech is a product of diligent practice and careful preparation.

A **"B"** speech will contain 3 distinct parts: an introduction, body and conclusion. The occasion will be communicated to the audience. Content is appropriate for the type of speech. Delivery is professional, but there may be more than a few awkward pauses, verbal stumbles, or vocal fillers. Nonverbal communication problems are present, but could have been avoided with more practice. The topic and occasion chosen by the speaker are appropriate for the audience and assignment. The speech will be within time limits. The difference between an "A" and "B" speech is in the delivery and polish of the speech. Overall, a "B" speech demonstrates an above average effort put forth by the speaker.

A **"C"** speech may be missing required parts. The occasion may be ineffectively communicated to the audience. The content is barely appropriate for the type of speech and/or the occasion is not the focus of the speech. Several verbal and nonverbal delivery problems are present, but could have been avoided with more practice. The topic and occasion chosen by the speaker may not be appropriate for the audience and/or the assignment. The speech may be over or under time limits. The difference between a "B" and "C" speech is in the delivery, polish, and content of the speech. Overall, a "C" speech demonstrates an average effort put forth by the speaker.

A **"D"** speech will be missing required elements. The occasion is not communicated to the audience and the content is inappropriate for the type of speech. Major verbal and nonverbal delivery problems are present and it is evident that the speaker did not practice the speech. The speech is most likely under the time minimum. The difference between a "C" and "D" speech is in the delivery, polish, content and effort put into the speech. Overall, a "D" speech demonstrates a below average attempt by the speaker.

An **"F"** speech will be incomplete at best. The occasion is not thought out and the content is irrelevant for a special occasion speech. The speech will be under time. The difference between a "D" and an "F" speech is a subpar performance in every category relevant to a special occasion speech. An "F" speech demonstrates a failure to understand and complete the assignment.