

Persuasive Speech Project

Assigned: January 9, 2013

Due Date: February 6, 2013

Goal of this project: Students will be able to give an effective, persuasive speech to an audience of peers.

Directions for the project are on brackenfourth.weebly.com. On the due date, students should have their visual component, note cards and planning packet.

This project is broken out into steps 1-12. You can complete this project using the following timeline. You DO NOT have to use this timeline; it is just a suggestion for organizing your time on this project.

Steps 1, 2, 3 January 9-16 (We will be checking for topics at this time)

Steps 4, 5 January 16-22

Steps 6,7 January 22-28

Steps 8, 9, 10 January 28-February 1

Steps 11, 12 February 1-6

Use your time wisely and know your topic well. You should be able to support your view and truly persuade your audience. Everyone will be able to tell if you do not know your topic.

The attached pages were completed in class together to give you an idea of what types of topics are good. You are NOT limited to these topics, find something you are passionate about.

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

Persuasive Speech Guide

The purpose of this assignment is to give an effective, persuasive speech to the class. Your final product will be a 3-5 minute well thought-out and rehearsed presentation to the class about an issue that interests you. You must present both sides of the argument, then state which side you're on, and why. You must try to persuade us that you're right. You must also include a visual aid, and demonstrate elements of an effective speech, such as using a loud voice and eye contact.

Here is the rubric:

Did you introduce and explain the issue in a way that the audience can understand?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Did you explain the "pros"?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Did you explain the "cons"?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Did you make a strong and convincing argument for the side you are on? Did you persuade us?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Did you speak loudly, clearly, and with expression?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Did you make eye contact with the audience?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Did you have a visual?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Was your presentation between 2 and 5 minutes?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Did you answer the questions from the audience in a clear and interesting way?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Step 1: Select an issue that interests you. Your issue must be appropriate to discuss in school. It must be an issue in which there are clear pros and cons.

Examples of issues include:

Kids should be allowed to chew gum in school.

The school day should be longer.

The school day should be shorter.

Kids should not have homework.

There should not be speed limits.

Kids should be allowed to drive.

Kids should be allowed to bring pets to school.

Write your issue here: _____

Step 2: Make a list of pros and cons. Make sure you think of as many pros and cons as you can. You may ask friends and classmates to help you think of these.

Pros	Cons

Step 3: Decide which side you are on. Which reasons are more important to you, the pros or the cons?

Write which side you are on here: _____

Now, write a paragraph describing why you are on the side you chose. Be as vivid and detailed as possible.

Step 4: You are now ready to begin working on writing your speech. Your speech must include these parts in the following order:

1. An interesting introduction that really "hooks" the listener into what you're saying.
2. Tell us the pros. Explain them well.
3. Tell us the cons. Explain them well.
4. Tell us which side you are on and WHY! This is the part where you really have to persuade us that you're right!
5. An interesting and dynamic concluding statement that leaves the listener excited.

Step 5: Write an interesting introduction that really "hooks" the listener into what you're saying. Think about beginning with a question or a short story.

Step 6: Write the pros. Don't just list them--listing is boring to listen to. Write them in an interesting way, and be sure to explain them so we understand.

Step 7: Write the cons. Don't just list them--listing is boring to listen to. Write them in an interesting way, and be sure to explain them so we understand.

Step 8: Explain which side you're on and PERSUADE us that you are right. CONVINCE US!
CONVINCE US! CONVINCE US!

Step 9: Write an interesting and strong concluding statement. Make sure you go out with a "bang"!

Step 10: Decide what type of visual to make, and make it.

Here are some ideas of effective visuals:

- Poster or powerpoint highlighting the pros and cons
- A work of art that shows your point, persuades us that you're right.
- A brochure describing the issue

Step 11: Now, you are ready to make the speech. Write each of the following parts of the speech on separate note cards (you can copy them from the paragraphs above, or revise what you wrote above to make it even better). Be sure to number the note cards

Note card 1: Introduction

Note card 2: Pros

Note card 3: Cons

Note card 4: Which side are you on?

Note card 5: Conclusion

Step 12: Practice your speech with a partner. Make sure you speak with expression and enthusiasm. Make sure we can hear you! Also, be sure to practice using eye contact. Don't just stare at your note cards. Periodically look up at your classmates.