

INTRODUCTORY SPEECH

(Speech #1)

3-minute Speech of Self-Introduction Based on a Favorite Photograph

You should deliver this speech extemporaneously from a brief set of notes. Your notes should occupy no more than one side of a single 4x6 index card.

NOTE: SPEECHES ARE NOT TO BE READ!
Eye contact with the audience is VERY important.

“Extemporaneous” means that you know the information very well and your presentation seems very conversational. This comes from practicing what you plan to say several times -- often with an audience of one or two supportive friends or classmates. Practicing also helps you get your speech *up to* or *down to* 3 minutes!

To prepare, select a photograph that represents a significant aspect of your background, personality, values, ambitions, etc. Use the chosen object as a point of departure for your comments. Explain how this photograph relates to your life.

Use your imagination and help us get to know you. Most people enjoy talking about themselves, and it's an easy way to begin feeling comfortable in front of a group.

Bring the photograph to class for your presentation. It can be a physical copy, a computer file, or link that can be displayed on the projector.

Remember, the purpose of the speech is not to explain the photograph in detail, but to use it as a starting point or a vehicle to introduce yourself to us. Tell us about you!

We will begin creating a cohesive, supportive atmosphere among ourselves. Also, this will be a brief, initial speaking experience. This situation will be low-risk. Your grade will mainly be your obvious interest in the assignment, your creativity and enthusiasm.

Obviously, as we get further into the course, the speech evaluation process will become more extensive, as you will be exhibiting your growing knowledge base in the best method of speech making.

Good luck -- you'll do great! Prepare and practice thoroughly; then, relax and have fun!