

HOW TO WRITE A KILLER SPEECH

for 1 students

Standing up in front of your classmates isn't easy! Here are a few tips for writing a speech that will

knock everyone off their seats.

by CSI Literacy

1 PICK A TOPIC YOU LIKE

There's an old saying: "no fun for the writer, no fun for the reader". Writing a speech is no different! If it's no fun for you, it'll be no fun for your audience. Choose a topic that really interests YOU.

2 WHAT'S THE PLAN, STAN?

Every story needs a beginning, a middle and an end. So does a speech! Write your topic on a piece of paper. Below it, write your opinion of your topic. Now write **two** or **three** main points that support your opinion. There's your outline!

3 START OFF WITH A BANG

Get your audience's attention right away. Share a fact, tell a funny story about your topic or ask a question. (And get everyone to raise their hands with an answer!) You can guarantee they'll be hooked.

4 WRITE LIKE YOU TALK

What works well when you write it down doesn't always work when you say it out loud. Be informal and conversational – that means using short sentences and contractions. (It'll help to read your speech aloud while you're writing it!)

5 PLAY DUMB

Playing dumb means you need to keep your sentences short, use everyday words, and be *really* clear about what you're trying to say. You want to tell your audience what you're going to tell them, tell them, then tell them what you told them.

6 CONNECT THE DOTS

Linking words will help you transition between your ideas and make it easy for your audience to understand what's going on (sometimes they need a little help). You might say things like, "let's begin", "in the same way", "in other words", "an example of this is" or "in conclusion".

7 HAVE A CALL TO ACTION

Think about the topic you've chosen: Did you want to motivate or inspire your audience? Persuade them to a point of view? Celebrate a person, place or event? Think about what you want people to do at the end, then ask them to do it!

8 PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Hopefully you've been saying your speech out loud as you write it, but if you haven't – now's the time! Are there any parts you struggle to say? Any words you wouldn't normally say? Change them! Practise your tone and remember to speak slowly.

