

Practice PT - Flash Talk

Part 1: Pick and Research your Issue

- **Your selected issue:** Pick one of the issues listed that interests you the most or that you'd like to know more about.
- **Reference 1:** Start by looking at the wikipedia article for your topic and view the links provided in wikipedia for more expert knowledge.
- **The focus of your speech:** Find an item or element of the article that interests you on which to base your 2-minute flash talk. You do not have to discuss every aspect of your chosen topic.
- **Reference: 2 and beyond:** Read further about the issue. Find *at least two* other articles (outside of Wikipedia) that relates to the issue.

Record your research in the organizer provided here:

My Selected issue: Cryptocurrencies
Focus of my flash talk: Theft, exploitation, and values of cryptocurrencies
The position I will take in my talk: Against the use of cryptocurrency

What is the reference? What did I learn from this reference?	What are the positive (+) and negative (-) impacts on society, economy, or culture? What do I want people to know about this?	What connections can I make to what I've learned about the Internet so far?	What details have I learned that support the position I have taken on this issue?
Reference 1: Cryptocurrencies, by nature, are not controlled by any central authority. https://www.pwc.com/us/en/industries/financial-services/financial-services/tech/bitcoin-blockchain-cryptocurrency.html	+: The values of cryptocurrencies are dependent on the processing power of the computer that mines them. -: Cryptocurrencies rely heavily on blockchains to be protected, distributed, and accounted for.	Blockchains are permanent and difficult to create.	The blockchains that cryptocurrencies rely on can not be controlled by any central authority.
Reference 2: Cryptocurrencies are interchangeable and easily obtained. https://coinmarketcap.com/	+: This means more money in circulation, each with varying values. -: The values of each form of cryptocurrencies are easily changeable.	Because cryptocurrencies rely on something as fast as the internet, values and prices can fluctuate rapidly, similarly to stocks.	The Mt. Gox bankruptcy was caused by 7% of all bitcoins at the time being stolen, which also resulted a loss of value for them.

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<p>Reference 3: Cryptocurrencies are not backed by another commodity such as gold.</p> <p>https://cointelegraph.com/explained/how-cryptocurrency-prices-work-explained</p>	<p>+: The devaluation of cryptocurrencies via inflation is almost nonexistent.</p> <p>-: Cryptocurrencies will always have a fixed/limited supply, thus the market is very competitive and volatile.</p>	<p>The whole point of cryptocurrencies is that they are abstract, and so they cannot be backed by any physical commodity.</p>	<p>Cryptocurrencies undermine banks and could potentially upend them.</p>
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Part 2. Write the Flash Talk

You will need to turn into Google Classroom a written copy (titled: Firstname-Lastname-Topic EG: Jared-Fast-Cryptocurrencies) of what will be said in your flash talk.

Your 2-minute flash talk **must**:

1. **Explain the topic or issue**, including technical details of the Internet and how it works in the context of the issue you've chosen to investigate.
2. **Explain the societal impacts** (both positive and negative) related to the issue
3. **Give an informed opinion**, position, or call-to-action on the issue

That's a lot to pack into 2 minutes! So your script for the talk needs to be tight and you need to choose your words well. (NOTE: 2 minutes of speech is about 300 words of text.) Use your research organizer to help you focus on what's most important. You should probably also practice reading it out loud.

Part 3. Presentation and Evaluation

Your flash talk should be tight, coherent, and convey a point of view. It should also clearly demonstrate your knowledge of the Internet and how it works. Below are the primary criteria on which your talk will be evaluated.

The flash talk...	1 does not	2 almost	3 does a good job
Clearly explains the broad issue and what must be considered.			
Clearly focuses on one important aspect of the broader issue.			
Appropriately connects knowledge of the Internet to the area of focus.			
Adequately presents beneficial/positive impacts, as well as the harmful/negative impacts.			

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States a position on the issue and makes a convincing argument supported by facts/details.			
Research organizer chart is complete/thorough and lists at least 3 resources. <i>Only one (1) may be from Wikipedia.</i>			