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Fall 2024 Semester

Speech and Debate: Midvale

12/17/24

Semester Reflection #1

The most important thing I have learned about myself in this class, is that I love arguing, and that I am good at making said arguments. When we did the spar unit, I loved the clashing, and making my point. At the tournament, I couldn't wait for my turn because it helped me become better at arguing, and thinking fast on my feet.

The most important thing I have learned about speech and debate so far is that it helps me think fast on my feet. Before doing speech and debate, I initially struggled at making arguments on the spot, but after doing the impromptu, and spar units, I became worlds better at thinking on my feet.

One obstacle I have had to overcome to be successful in this class is speaking in front of people I don't know. When I started the class it felt weird to give a 5 minute impromptu speech to people I had just met. But, as the semester went along, I got better, and at the tournament, it didn't bug me at all. Now, I can just stand up, and present points without feeling embarrassed, or scared.

The best part of my performance this semester has been during oratory. I placed third in the in class tournament, and I spent hours making my presentation, and I felt very passionate about the topic I wrote about.

The grade I would give myself this semester is an A. This being because, I finished all of the homework, on time, and did not miss a day. I also hit all of the benchmarks, besides one, and went to one of the tournaments.

The thing I will do differently after this semester of speech and debate, is doing my homework the days before it is due. I have found myself having to do the homework, the day of class, and it is never fun to do it all in one day. So next semester I will do my homework before the due date.

One thing Jantzen should do is give me more cookies and brownies. (I'm kidding). Something that Jantzen could do differently is have more discussions, like BD Skydiving. I really like having those discussions, and they make me think. Also, we should keep having in class tournaments, because they prepare me for the real thing.

In conclusion, I have really enjoyed this semester of Speech and Debate, and can't wait for next semester. Thank you Jantzen.