**Taylor Swift:** Hi. That was nice.

**Taylor Swift:** It’s great to be here. This is amazing.

**Kevin Allocca:** We were talking before, you’ve actually been here before; is that right?

**Taylor Swift:** Yes. I came here, I think, about five years ago, I was 16. And just about to release my first single Tim McGraw. And so we were traveling up the West Coast in a rental car, in a TAURUS, and I was doing my homework in the back seat, I was home schooled in 10th grade. That was when we made this trip to San Jose and came to see you for the first time. It’s wonderful to be back here and have so many of you come out this time around. It’s amazing.

**Kevin Allocca:** We’re a very forward-thinking company apparently, having you here when you were 16. I want to thank you for being here, first of all, for all of us. This is really an honor and a treat. You’re in the middle of your tour, Speak Now. I know you have posted some videos to your channel, sort of outlining your tour, and, specifically, your trip to Asia. And I want to show a clip from when you were in Singapore. I know you were in Chinatown, but the Chinatown of Singapore? Is that right?

**Taylor Swift:** Yes. We started out the year going on tour and started off in Asia. And then we were in Europe for two months. It was, like, three months of major worldwide touring. So Singapore was the first place that we went on the tour.

**Kevin Allocca:** Cool. Let’s roll that clip.

Everywhere, sort of fascinated by the waving cats, because, you know, of course, as long as you keep fresh batteries in them, they’re always going to be saying hello to you, just always. Symbolize forever, waving cats. What’s better than a cat that’s always like, hey? There’s nothing better than that.

**Kevin Allocca:** So this, of course, has all the makings of a viral video. There’s a big celebrity. It’s a global thing. There’s a cat in the video.

**Taylor Swift:** That will do it. I think you just said it. That’s the essential ingredient is a cat.

**Kevin Allocca:** Now your YouTube channel is very popular. I know you have over a half a million subscribers that get your blogs when you post them, which is really cool. I wanted to ask you off the bat, how important is your channel and social media in general as a tool for expression but also connecting with your audience.

**Taylor Swift:** I think we’ve all seen the effect of social media and how that can affect people. For me, I grew up when that was just about to set fire to the world. You know, I was, I think, in seventh and eighth grade when everybody started having a profile online and everybody was — you know, it was all about who’s your friend and who’s commenting on whose page. And then it became the YouTube generation, where everybody’s looking at videos, everybody’s making video blogs and, you know, makeup tutorials or this or that or back to school outfit shopping, you know. Everybody is kind of catching on to communicating by making videos and learning how to edit them. And it’s — I think it’s fantastic, because it’s just a new skill set for this new generation. [Read Less](https://www.englishspeecheschannel.com/english-speeches/taylor-swift-speech/)

**Kevin Allocca:** And I would be remiss if it were a YouTube interview and I didn’t ask you if you had any favorite — I know you’re busy — but any favorite YouTube videos or channels that you like to watch?

**Taylor Swift:** Yes. I have watched this one three times this week because it makes me so happy. And it’s got these, like, five or six lion cubs. And there’s the lion trainer. And you’re like, oh, the lion cubs are cute. And they’re walking around. And then they jump up on the lion trainer and start hugging him. And then they’re, like, making all these little lion sounds that you don’t — you didn’t know what the sounds are that lion cubs make, but it’s amazing. It’s just like RRRR. They’re like hugging him, and he’s, like, oh, go for my hair. You keep going for my hair. And then he’s like, oh, yeah, telling me stories.

**Kevin Allocca:** Where was this zoo?

**Taylor Swift:** It’s amazing. It’s —

**Taylor Swift:** ‘Cause he’s like Scottish and they’re, like, hugging him and they love him so much. And — I don’t know. It’s – you — just watch it.

**Kevin Allocca:** I guess everybody is going to run — it’s going to be popular now.

**Kevin Allocca:** Well, this isn’t just our interview. This is also your fans’ interview. And you have some very rabid fans, the Swifties I believe is how they call themselves.

**Taylor Swift:** I know. It’s so cute. They came up with that.

**Kevin Allocca:** They’re very serious, by the way. They don’t mess around. They submitted 30,000 questions to this interview.

**Kevin Allocca:** And over…

**Taylor Swift:** That’s so much questions. They’re so curious.

**Kevin Allocca:** Yeah. We only can do a few of them. And we also have some from Google. But the biggest topic by far was songwriting, because I think that a lot of your fans have a big connection to the stories you that tell in your songs. Let’s start with this topic. This one comes from pandabearlover13. I mean, a lot of the user names are not meant to be read outloud. This is from Florida. Which comes first for you as a songwriter, the music or the lyrics?

**Taylor Swift:** I think for me, it more comes as a general idea. And my favorite thing about songwriting is that it’s so spontaneous and unpredictable what’s going to hit me first, whether it’s going to be a general thought. Like, for example, you know, I’ll be going through something. When I wrote the song “love story,” that’s a song I wrote sitting on my bedroom floor because I liked a guy and my parents didn’t want me to date him. So I got this idea in my head, it just popped into my head, you were Romeo, you were throwing pebbles, and my daddy said stay away from Juliet. I didn’t know where that was going to fit, but I started there and built out from there. And it’s crazy how the fastest songs that I write end up being my favorites, the ones that just happen (snapping fingers) in just a surge of idea, a surge of inspiration. It’s usually something I’m going through at the time. It’s very hard for me to come up with just some random metaphor for a situation if I’m not going through it or haven’t recently just gone through it. But, you know, I think when I was growing up, my mom was always — my mom talks in metaphor a lot. And so I think I grew up just understanding metaphor and just kind of loving that, how you could take something you’re going through and speak about it in a different way that applies how you’re feeling to something completely different but connects it. So I think for me, it starts as an idea and a feeling and an emotion.

**Kevin Allocca:** Yeah. We had a lot of questions about the process, from budding song writers who submitted questions that are big fans of yours, from Buffalo and a bunch of different places. And — I mean, you know, we were wondering, is there one favorite part of the songwriting process that you have? I mean, is it when you get that idea? Or when you’re sitting on the floor in the bedroom or —

**Taylor Swift:** Yes.

**Kevin Allocca:** — in the studio?

**Taylor Swift:** There are several moments in a song — and I won’t finish a song if I don’t have these moments — where you go, “ooh, ooh, ooh,” like, after you write a line. It’s always that same feeling of, like, oh, that’s exactly what I meant. You know, if you’re in a cowriting session, I’m always the one who will, like, be, like, sitting there for a second, and then I’ll say a line, and if it’s that moment where you’re just, like, that’s the one. That’s the line, I have to have about four or five of those lines in a song for me to put it on a record.

**Kevin Allocca:** Yeah.

**Taylor Swift:** Like, lines where I’m just like, “Yes!” That’s my favorite part, is, then, when the song goes into its phase of being recorded and then being put on an album and when you’re playing it for people for the first time, when it comes across those lines that you really feel are like, I don’t know, like zingers or, like, say it really well. I love watching people’s reactions if they — if it comes across, like, if they get those lines. I’m like, “Yes. I knew it.”