

Speech Judging and Peer Feedback Guidelines

In addition to feedback from your professor, you will receive two other forms of critique of your graded speeches. As mentioned previously, your participation in this course is vital to making the course a success. Your speech critiques are especially important as you both function as an audience member and give helpful feedback to your peers.

You must participate in two types of evaluation and critique in this course. Those giving a speech will be exempt from the following.

Speech Judging. For this activity you and two colleagues from the class will provide critique for each speaker on a given day of speeches. This will be done a minimum of two times during this course.

After all of the speeches are done that day, you and your two peers will go to another room and share notes on what worked and did not work. Each of you must give at least one encouraging point (what the speaker did well) and one constructive point (what the speaker could do better). E.g., "You had a great opening, but the middle of the speech was confusing;" or "Your delivery was too hurried and fast;" or "You had a clear organizational pattern," etc. Be sure to get the name of each speaker and address them personally.

If one team member does not have a different encouraging and constructive point from the others, the other two can give her or her one based on their notes. In other words, "I agree with them" is not a sufficient critique.

You will also time the speech and one of your team members will say whether it went too long, was too short, or was just right. You will also note the number of research cites that were used to support the speech and if they were clearly stated or not. The number of cites to listen for in each speech will be determined by the Guidelines for that speech.

Try to do the private discussion and critiquing as fast as possible. We do not want to keep the class waiting too long.

Remember the goal here is to both sharpen your active listening skills and to offer helpful feedback to your peers. If you just say "it was a good speech," this is too thin and superficial and not truly helpful. We want to know specifically why it was a good speech or what needs to be improved.

Peer Feedback. Those who are not judges on the day of a speech will have an opportunity to add their critiques after the Judges are done. The goal here is not to repeat what the judges said but to add something new or missed. How many students will have the opportunity to do this will depend on how much time is left in the class.