

A good summary talks about the class progress, describes what was taught/accomplished in the meeting, what chapter of the book was explained, students performance, and mentions any homework that was assigned. The overall message should be cheerful, engaging, and inspiring. This must also be posted in the Google Group right after the class.

Dear Parents,

Greetings! Our first pre-public speaking class was a blast!

First, we introduced ourselves and had the chance to simply speak our mind. I was glad to see how open the group is! Then, we laid down some ground agreements. We discussed a good audience versus a bad audience; a good audience is one that pays attention to the speaker, doesn't talk when others are talking, focuses on the lesson, and gives constructive feedback to their classmates. A bad audience is one that speaks out of turn and does something else when a speech is happening.

Students are able to earn Debate Dollars every class. Debate dollars are given out when good behavior is demonstrated, and taken away if disruptive behavior is demonstrated. They can also earn Debate dollars by bringing their Public Speaking book, a notebook for speech writing, a pencil, and an eraser to every class. They'll have a chance to spend these dollars every 8 weeks, so please encourage them to do their best!

After introductions, we went into what we want to accomplish together. We broke down the word confidence and went through the standards we will be exploring. We played "Two Truths and a Lie" to jump right into talking in front of a group. I taught them to always practice the 3 second rule (wait 3 seconds before speaking), take a deep breath, and then proceed. They had a lot of fun with the game!

ASSIGNMENT:

For next week, their assignment is to bring an object from home for "(Don't) Show and Tell". They will be required to present the items listed below:

- First and last name

- Complete Date (Day, month, date, and year of speech)

- Object hidden in a bag. Give the letter of the alphabet that the object begins with and three clues describing that object so that the class can guess.

- At least two sentences describing, explaining, or telling something about the object in the bag

I'm looking forward to seeing what they will bring! This will be our chance to practice the elements of a powerful voice (ease, openness, and forwardness).

Thank you!

With warmth and gratitude,
Teacher Kim

Hello Parents,

Announcements:

Reminder: Class is held between 4:45-5:45. Please pick your student up at the close of class. There is a 10min "grace" period to pick your student up, followed by a \$1/min fee after 10min.

Last Class:

Last class, students presented their speeches and received feedback and learned how to write the body of their speeches. Students learned how to research a topic and how to organize their research into the body of their speech. This was "step 4" of 6 of our lesson on how to write a speech.

Homework:

Page 11 "Write a speech about your favorite recipe."

This can either be a "how to" speech detailing how to make their favorite food or a more general reflection of their favorite recipe.

Please encourage your student to research each speech they give in the future. Their speeches should have a clear beginning, body and end. Please refer to the book for good opening and closing strategies. (You can also email me with questions.) Speeches should strive to be approx. 2 minutes long.

This speech will count towards our ribbon system. Ribbons will be awarded the following week on 4/22.

What to expect next class:

Students will present their speeches, receive feedback and will learn about "step 5, Make it Interesting"

Video:

Below is a link to a speech given by an extraordinary young person who developed an app. Please share it with your student. Does this speech have a clear introduction? What is the body about? How does he end? What is good about his presentation style? Encourage your student to practice their speech by "pretending" they are this speaker. http://www.ted.com/talks/thomas_suarez_a_12_year_old_app_developer?language=en

I look forward to tomorrow's class!

Best wishes,

Jill

Hello Mission Valley Students and Parents!

We had an excellent class last week learning important vocabulary concept for debate called:

A.R.E

Assertion, Reasoning and Evidence.

This is how we make 1 complete argument.

Using A.R.E. we began our rough drafts for our 3 minute maximum speeches.

Homework is due next week: a rough draft of this speech based on 1 of the following topics of your choice. All speeches must have an argument in the intro. Remember to tell stories, be detailed, and show excitement for the topics. Talk about your reasoning in the intro and then prove your argument throughout the speech. These speeches need to run 2-3 minutes, and should be at least 2 full pages handwritten, or 2 double-spaced pages typed. Read aloud to your parents and time them to see if they're long enough.

Topics

- If you could change one thing in the world what would it be and why
- I am a fan of _____
- My favorite place for vacation
- Fears and Uses of Civilian Drones
- Causes and Effects of Smoking
- Tablets should replace textbooks in schools.

This is all in preparation for the BADC tournament on March 7th.

Register below, and all the information is on the website. Students are HIGHLY encouraged to attend and will not complete our course with honors if they do not attend.

www.bayareadebateclub.com

Thanks everyone!

Ms. Brittany

Hello Parents and students,

Friday's "mystery object" speeches went well as each of us had the opportunity to speak in front of the class. There are various objectives behind this speech exercise such as, engaging the audience with descriptive clues about the main topic and connecting with the audience by concluding with a personal reason behind their choice of their "mystery object."

We began to work on voice as part of our presentation skills in particular, the awareness of our voice. Each of us has the ability to verbally express our thoughts, ideas, and emotions; however, for us to have an impact on our audience we must develop these 3 fundamentals for a **good voice**:

- Ease
- Openness
- Forwardness

If you like, you can review page 7 in the handbook to get a better idea of the concepts behind the "Power of Voice." We read tongue-twisters out loud and I introduced them to a mouth exercise that I still use today! Tongue twisters and mouth exercises are a fun way to develop a good voice. The goal is to have the natural ability to speak with clarity, control, and ease.

This Friday we are bringing a variety of verbal and non-verbal skills together (eye contact, posture, voice). In addition, students are to focus on the fundamental structure of the speech making sure they have a clear introduction, 3 supporting topics, and a conclusion. I asked the students to prepare a minute-and-a-half speech, but if they need additional time-say an extra minute-and-a-half for a total of 3 minutes that will work too.

Sincerely,
Mr. John Doe

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Hello all!

Today the students competed against one another in a debate. The topic being, public schools vs. private schools. I have to say this was an extremely informative and persuasive debate and the students were excited about the topic.

So far, we have covered how to put together a constructive speeches, rebuttals, and closing arguments. We started class by going over (again) rebuttal tactics covered on page 17 & 18 of the booklet. It's important that students learn the effective way of rebutting their opponent's constructive arguments and today's debate focused on that. I advise you all to review those methods with your kids when you have free time. Practice makes perfect!!!

At the end of the debate I picked two students to be this week's best debaters. One who had the best constructive speech and the other for having the best rebuttal speech. **MAXINE** had the best constructive speech and **RUNXIN** had the best rebuttals. Congratulations ladies!!! These two geniuses followed the proper format and method when delivering their respective speeches. It's tough to decide on the debater(s) of the week because everyone is doing so well!!!!!! Makes my job that much harder!

Next week the students will compete in another debate but this time we will integrate closing arguments. The topic for next week is: smartphones make us more productive. The students have been told what side to take. Some will argue smartphones make us more productive while others will argue, smartphone DO NOT make us productive. There is a lot of information online with regard to this topic so I expect everyone to bring with them great evidence to support their respective arguments! One lucky student will go head to head with ME! Yes, you read that right, ME!

Have a great rest of the week everyone, until next time!!!

Teacher Jane