Persuasive Speech on Spontaneity Critique for Self

I felt very confident with how my persuasive speech. I think my audience was very perceptive and open to my arguments and I picked up on a lot of positive feelings/views towards my speech from my audience while giving my speech and there-afterward.

My introduction was well put together, I felt. I started out with an extensive personal story elaborating on my own connection to the topic. This emphasized my credibility and solidified my relatability throughout the rest of the speech. I was able to reference this story multiple times to pull together points. Some of which included my references to my new friends, new significant other, and new experiences I’ve had since arriving to Colorado Mesa. (Loftness) I created suspense and kept the listeners interested even when the story was getting a little long, “I wanted to do something new—experience things I had never gotten the chance to experience.” (Loftness). I tried to make my thesis statement very clear, following directly after the introduction narrative. “I truly believe that taking an active role in being more spontaneous and going with the low can, in innumerable ways, positively change one’s life.” (Loftness)

In my transition from the introduction to the body I used the technique of repetition to ease the flow. I repeated the phrase “No one wants to…” (Loftness) several times to introduce the audience subliminally to the idea that they should not only be spontaneous for themselves, but also for those around them. Hearing this phrase over and over, the audience will want to jump on the bandwagon and learn to be more spontaneous.

Signposts were used occasionally, but often the quotes/references drove the transitions of my argument. I used “so,” “now,” and “after,” to guide the listener through my introductory narrative. Later on I started new claims with quotes and references like my quote from Alifeofblue.com and The American Psychological Association. (Loftness)

The main points of the presentation were the claim that we “live in a wheel of repetitive lifestyles and routines,” (Loftness) so therefore we should try and eliminate some of the routines in our lives. To support this point I used another personal narrative of my experiences at Target Headquarters. I also used information provided on multiple sites reiterating the negative effects of routines on creativity and mental health. Following that I discussed “negative repercussions of chronic dissatisfaction.” (Loftness) This was another of my main points. This information was supported from multiple articles such as the American Psychological Association, as I earlier mentioned, and Psych Central. (Loftness) Thus I felt the citations I used in my speech were very effective. They supported my claims and I felt provided a certain reliability/credibility factor. Using myself as a source through my personal narratives improved the trustworthiness of me as a speaker on this topic and my topic as a whole; I am a real-world example of spontaneity working to better my life and diversity of experience.

I believe the strongest aspect of my delivery was my confidence and personal connection to the topic in which I demonstrated through my comfortable, informative, and conversational style. I could have improved upon my time management. I had quite a long conclusion and was unable to finish it all by the time I felt I should conclude my speech. In my practices I was on time, but I was rushing then. I didn’t plan enough for my more slowed down and controlled delivery in the classroom setting.

Overall I feel as though my claims were supported and effective. To me, my speech was very persuasive and I had confirmation from other students that they felt the same. I am confident in my performance of this speech.

References

Loftness, Bryn. *Persuasive Speech on Spontaneity*. SPCH 102.

Colorado Mesa University, Grand Junction, CO. 30 Nov. 2017.

**PERSUASIVE SPEECH EVALUATION FORM**

Speaker : Bryn Loftness

Topic : Spontaneity

Used speaking notes and submitted outline

**Criteria**

Preparation **10***/10*

Speaking notes (3 x 5)

Outline with Reference List

Attention getter was good, started it out with an extensive story elaborating on my personal connection to the topic – emphasizes my credibility and relatability

Introduction**10***/10*

Attention Getter

Credibility

Thesis Statement

Preview

Transition to body

Body **62**/65

Clear main points

Points Supported with examples and analogies

Could have used more sign posts to help transition through points better

8 Referenced sources cited correctly (1 @ 4.5 each)

Organization Clarity

Transitions effective

Adapted speech to audience

Conclusion **9** */10*

Could have made conclusion shorter to better summarize points more effectively

Transition to conclusion

Reinforce main points

Effective concluding statement

Delivery**12** */15*

Eye Contact

Could have used more eye contact and the addition of a better visual aid then just a picture of the word spontaneity

Effective Vocal Elements

Language

Nonverbal Elements

Visual Aid

Persuasive Appeals **15** /15

My appeals were effective. Emotional – “no one wants to”

Logical - mental health repercussions

Credibility – personal stories

Effective emotional appeals

Effective logical appeals

Effective credibility appeals

Time \_Unknown\_\_\_\_ Missed Speech Days\_\_0\_\_ Total **115** /125