

Speech Assignment #1: Self-Introduction Speech
Personal Object

Time Limit: 2-3 minutes required for full points (5 point penalty for not meeting the time limit)
Speech Point Value: 25 participation points

Purpose

This assignment is designed to help us get to know you better and to give you some non-threatening speaking experience using a topic you know a lot about—you!

Requirements

1. This is an **extemporaneous** speech, meaning that your speech should sound conversational. Please do not read your speech. Focus on making eye contact with your audience. Deliver your speech using only brief notes written on **one** note card.
2. In preparation for this speech, **choose one object** that represents a significant aspect of your background, personality, values, ambitions, etc. Using this object as a starting point for your speech, explain **three** ways that it relates to your life. These three ways become the required **three main points** for your speech.

Examples:

- A student wishing to pursue a career in journalism might select a newspaper as a way to explain his or her three main goals in life.
 - A new father might select a diaper and explain three ways that his experiences as a parent have shaped him.
 - An avid tennis player might settle on a tennis racket to illustrate three things that her passion for tennis has taught her.
3. Display the object during your speech. If the object is too large, a photograph of it will be sufficient. Hold it up during your speech at least once during the speech--and long enough for us to really see it.
 4. **Important:** The point of this speech is not to describe the object in detail; instead, use it as a way to introduce yourself to us.