

Speeches for Analyses

Directions: The following four speeches illustrate various rhetorical concepts from your textbook. Please view each speech and answer the corresponding questions.

- 1) Matthew McConaughey's Oscar acceptance speech from 2014 found on americanrhetoric.com. A full transcript is included.

A. How did Matthew McConaughey preview his speech?

He started by thanking the other nominees, the people he worked with, and God.

B. What were his three main points?

He succeeded every day by having something to look up to, having something to look forward to, and having someone to chase

C. What organizational pattern did he use?

Chronological

D. How did he review his main points?

He referenced the people who are following the same daily goals as he is and reaffirmed them.

- 2) Lupita Nyong'o's speech on Black Beauty from the 2014 Black Women in Hollywood award ceremony. This video can be found on YouTube. Closed captioning is available.

A. How does Lupita Nyong'o use narrative to connect with her audience?

Because the story she quotes is from a little black girl, who is uncomfortable with the way she looks, the audience sympathizes

B. What power language/imagery makes the speech impactful and memorable?

Her describing of what beauty is, and how you can't eat beauty is very descript, making her speech impactful.

- 3) Amy Cuddy's TED talk "Your Body Language Shapes Who You Are" found on TED.org. Full transcript and subtitles are available.

A. What did you learn about verbal and non-verbal delivery from this speech?

Verbal delivery does impact delivery, but non-verbal delivery plays a bigger role, with body language playing the biggest.

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Incorporating power posing, or using open and expansive postures to convey confidence and dominance, will enhance delivery greatly.

- 4) Lee Mokobe's TED talk "A Powerful Poem About What it Feels Like to be Transgender" found on TED.org. Full transcript and subtitles are available.
Questions developed by Sam Campbell and Vanessa Luis, Ohlone College students.

A. How does the attention getter and closing remark work together?

Both were powerful imagery about praying to God

B. List three lines that exemplify figures of speech.

1. I befriended silence in the hopes that my sin would burn

2. I treat it like a house,

3. that I am a walking casket,

C. List lines that you feel contained powerful language.

1. She claims I have turned myself into a mausoleum,

2. and now oncoming traffic is embracing more transgender children

D. How did their use of pathos aid their message?

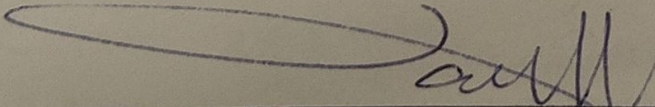
Their use of pathos helped the audience sympathize with them and enhanced their messages.

E. Are their pop culture references effective in connecting with the audience? Why?

Yes, their reference of Bruce Jenner, a popular media personality, helped make their line about their identity being a spectacle more impactful

F. How does the juxtaposition of being transgender and being religious affect their message?

The two are polar opposites since most religions condemn gender variance, and including both right next to each other, enhanced their speech.


Instructor/Tutor Signature

Lucas Gobacco

MURTAZA NAQVI

Melanie Hammers

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Date/Time

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