

# Debate: Craft a Speech – Teaching Strategy

## Quick Overview

Students deepen their understanding of any topic with step-by-step support to craft the introduction, argument, and conclusion of a compelling speech.

## Skill Objective

Students will...

- Transform a set of ideas and arguments into a well-structured, compelling speech.
- Practice oral communication and argumentation by writing and presenting speeches to their classmates

## Content Objective

Students will...

- Analyze historical sources, actions, and events
- Develop and defend an evidence-based interpretation, using primary and secondary sources.

## Civics Skills Connection

Reasoning Skills:

- **Evaluate evidence:** Students engage with primary and secondary sources
- **Analytical/critical thinking:** Students construct arguments

-----

## Prep ahead

- Provide background information, or primary and secondary sources for students to use in their research
  - Provide or approve research sources students will use (e.g., articles, textbook pages, primary source excerpts).
  - Ensure students understand key historical or topical context before writing.
- Print out the Craft a Speech handout for each student to use throughout the activity

## Strategy Steps

1. Distribute the Craft a Speech handout and let students know they will first analyze a model speech together as a class.
2. As you analyze the model together, guide students through each part of the speech:

- Hook and transition
  - Claim and evidence
  - Conclusion
3. Students complete the graphic organizer using their own speech topic and evidence.
- Offer time cues as needed to help students stay on pace to prioritize each section of the organizer

### **Customizations**

- **Option 1: Review it**
  - After each step on the organizer (hook and transition, claim and evidence, conclusion) give feedback to students or have student's peer edit
- **Option 2: Present it**
  - Students present their speeches to the class, either in person or recorded.
- **Option 3: Assess it**
  - Educator collects the Craft a Speech handout and reviews the required sections.
  - If students are presenting speeches, the educator can assess the speech while it is being delivered.
- **Option 4: Partner it**
  - Educator partners students with opposing points of view to compare their arguments and evidence via a strategy such as Learn to Listen, Listen to Learn