

POETRY/SONG LYRIC/PROSE SPEECH

Time --2 minutes to 3 Minutes--no shorter no longer

Objectives:

1. Develop public speaking skills.
2. Create an understanding of your audience.
3. Learn to interpret published material.
4. Develop a manuscript that is effective and easy to use.
5. Have fun – learn some lyrics.

The Lyric/Prose Speech is an opportunity to use others' works in an interpretive manner. This project will allow you to focus more on the presentation and interpretation of others' material than creating and organizing the information. Often while public speaking; we add quotes or stories to our speech to "spice it up." It is then that you may assume a voice or character distinctly different from your own and present others' thoughts and or work – you will want your audience to know that it is not your "voice." I would suggest that you select a song or piece of prose you are unfamiliar with and listen to it (or read it). (Read the cassette, album and CD jackets, pick lyrics you enjoy, decide how to present them, THEN listen to the song.) You will speak the lyrics NOT SING them. If it is a song that you know well you might bust out into that song–This is a speaking exercise, not karaoke. Once you have found a song or prose you will put the lyrics or words into Manuscript form.

The Manuscript:

The Manuscript is to be Typed, Large Font (20pt. +), double and triple spaced; no widows or orphans on the page. You could Bold or highlight the first word in each sentence to make it easy to pick up the start of each sentence. You could start all sentences on the left margin so you don't have to fish around in the interior of the page to find the start of the next sentence. Your goal is to develop a manuscript that is easy to use when delivering the speech. Get your manuscript done as soon as possible so that you can begin to practice with your manuscript.

There are web pages available that are Lyric clearinghouses of sorts. You can go to these sites and find just about any lyrics that you are looking for. Once you find the lyrics that you are interested in you can then copy and past the lyrics into your word processor. Then you will need to edit the lyrics and make an effective, usable Manuscript.

Things I will consider while grading this speech (a partial list):

1. Does the performance meet the objectives of the project?
2. Do your vocal and physical aspects work well with the message you are intending to send the audience?
3. Do you gesture appropriately and maintain eye contact with your audience indicating practice?
4. Are you enthusiastic about your presentation and your choice of lyrics or prose?
5. Have you demonstrated effective delivery skills and effective skills using a manuscript?
6. Speeches must be a minimum of 2minutes and a maximum of 3 minutes-otherwise they will be penalized.
7. Deliver the lyrics or prose to the class using your verbal and nonverbal skills to bring the lyrics or words to life.