

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Pd \_\_\_\_\_

## Community Research Speech

**Directions:** Write a speech in which you identify a community issue, take a stance on the issue, present an opposing viewpoint, and use research to support your stance.

### Score of 5

- The introductory paragraph has a compelling hook, a statement of why the topic is an issue, an opposing viewpoint with rebuttal and a clear thesis statement stating your stance on the issue.
- There are two clear topic sentences, one per body paragraph, stating a reason to support your stance.
- Each body paragraph has two supporting details, one must be a cited piece of research, that clearly strengthens your stance.
- Elaboration upon the supporting details clearly expresses your opinion and supports your stance.
- The concluding paragraph clearly restates your thesis statement and has a persuasive call to action.
- Word choice is specific and engaging.
- Sentences are well-developed with structural variety.
- Language conventions effectively support the writing.

### Score of 4

- The introductory paragraph adequately introduces the issue.
- There are at least two topic sentences, one per body paragraph, stating a reason to support your stance.
- Each body paragraph has two supporting details, one must be a cited piece of research, that strengthens your stance. BP 1 \_\_\_\_\_ BP 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- Elaboration upon the cited research states your opinion and relates to your stance. BP 1 \_\_\_\_\_ BP 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- The concluding paragraph restates your thesis and has a call to action.
- Word choice is specific.
- Sentences have structural variety.
- The response mostly follows language conventions.

### Score of 3

- The introductory paragraph attempts to introduce the issue.
- Only one body paragraph has a topic sentence stating a reason to support your stance.
- The body paragraphs have cited research that attempts to support your stance. BP 1 \_\_\_\_\_ BP 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- Elaboration upon cited research states your opinion but does not connect to stance. BP 1 \_\_\_\_\_ BP 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- The concluding paragraph either restates the issue or attempts a call to action
- Word choice needs to be more direct.
- Sentences have some structural variety.
- Errors in language conventions distract or interfere with meaning.

### Score of 2

- The introductory paragraph is flawed.
- There are no clear topic sentences.
- Only one body paragraph has evidence of cited research.
- The elaboration is insufficient or confusing.
- The concluding paragraph neither restates the thesis statement nor attempts a call to action.
- Word choice does not clearly present information.
- Sentences lack structural variety.
- Errors in language conventions make the writing difficult to understand.

### Score of 1

- There is not a clear introduction, body, and conclusion.
- There is no evidence of cited research.
- There is no elaboration upon the cited research.
- Word choice is confusing.
- Sentences lack any coherent structure.
- Errors in language conventions make the writing difficult to understand.

**Score of 0**—No response.

### Conversion Chart

5	=	30
4+	=	28
4	=	26
3+	=	24
3	=	23
2+	=	21
2	=	19
1+	=	18
1	=	15

## Persuasive Speech Graphic Organizer

Write your arguments and ideas below. You will need to fill all boxes to have a good speech. When you write your speech, you will need to add additional details from your notes about each idea or argument.

**Hook** (*Write an interesting question, statement, or anecdote.*):

**May or may not use a hook.**

**Background Information** (*How would you explain the issue to someone who has never heard of it?*):

**Notecard**

**Opposing View** (*What does the other side think*) Include a piece of cited research.

**Notecard**

**Rebuttal** (*Squash the opposing viewpoint like a bug*)

**Thesis Statement** (*Give your position on the issue. Do NOT use the words "I think..."*):

**First Reason Supporting Your Thesis (1<sup>st</sup> body paragraph)**

**Detail #1** (Evidence from research with citation) and *Elaboration*

**Detail #2** (Evidence from research with citation or Personal Example/Opinion) and *Elaboration*

**Second Reason Supporting Your Thesis (1<sup>st</sup> body paragraph)**

*Detail #1 (Evidence from research with citation) and Elaboration*

*Detail #2 (Evidence from research with citation or Personal Example/Opinion) and Elaboration*

**Refer to thesis**

*Aha!* Interesting wrap-up

**Include statement of what action needs to happen (Avoid first person)**

**Possible Issues for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English – Persuasive Speech****School Issues**

**School start times:** Should school start later in the morning so students can get more sleep?

**Single-gender schools:** Should all students have the right to be educated with all-girls or all-boys?

**School uniforms:** Should students be required to wear uniforms to school?

**Teen Issues**

**Violence in Video Games:** Do violent video games positively or negatively affect teens?

**Curfews:** Should cities set teen curfews to prevent crime?

**National/International Issues**

**Bottled Water:** Should the sale of bottled water be banned?

**Pets:** Should cloning of cats and dogs be allowed?

**Animal Testing:** Should cosmetic and drug companies be allowed to use animals for testing their products before they are used with humans?

**Official language:** Should English be the “official” language of the U.S.?

**Global Warming:** Is global warming a crisis?

**Universal Healthcare:** Should the government force all citizens to have healthcare?

**Out Sourcing/Global Trading:** Does global trading gain or lose jobs for US citizens?



## Questions, Note Cards, Works Cited

Think about the topic you are going to research. What questions will you need to answer to write a good speech?

### Possible Questions for Research:

Why do people disagree about this issue?

Why is this issue important?

What groups of people have strong opinions about this issue (stakeholders)?

What is important to know (background information) to understand this issue?

What research has been done about this issue?

What data has been collected about this issue?

What examples can I find that support my position on this issue?

What ideas are held by people who disagree with me? How will I persuade them?

Additional Questions:

What words or phrases will you use to help you locate information and arguments?

### Sample Keywords/ Search Terms:

*Voting rights; Washington D.C.; Constitution; Taxation Without Representation; Congress*

### My Keywords/ Search Terms:

#### Note Card Requirements: 90% category

- At least \_\_\_\_ note cards (one must be a con/opposing view)
- Each note card must have a quote from an article and a paraphrase of the quote

Score: 2 points per completed note card

#### Work Cited Requirements: 10% category

- Three complete entries = 4 points
- Two complete entries = 3 points
- One complete entry = 2 points
- Zero entries = 0 points