

## Hero Speech Outline Example

### I. Introduction (Attention getter – Hook)

- Never go to bed angry, always tell the people you love that you love them, and do not be afraid to speak your mind.

#### a. Introduce your hero to the class

- My hero is my grandpa Gene Erickson, born May 13<sup>th</sup> 1919 in Michigan. One of three boys in his family. Born of Finnish heritage, grew up speaking English and Finnish. Married in his early twenties to Marian Beaudry. With her they had 5 children over the span of 19 years, 2 boys and three girls, my mother being the youngest of all five. From those five children he was blessed with 8 grandchildren, one boy and seven girls. I am the second youngest grandchild, my sister is the youngest.

#### b. Tell why this person is your hero (thesis)

- Gene Erickson is my hero for many reasons, he always put his family first, he was hard working and dedicated, and he was not afraid to speak his mind.

### II. Body (Elaborate on the three reasons)

#### a. Reason #1: He always put his family first

- b. **Elaborate on reason:** Whenever my Grandpa's kids or grandkids needed him he was always there. When I was a junior in high school I had to interview someone on videotape with an interesting story to tell. The first person to pop into my mind for that assignment was my grandpa. I was not sure if he would want to do it or not, but when I asked he was quick to tell me that he would love to, and the interview turned out great!

**Transition between reasons (giving reason #2):** Along with always putting his family first he was an extremely hard working and dedicated person.

- c. **Elaborate on reason:** When my grandpa was in his late teens and early twenties he was a boxer. He was one of the best boxers around, and it was not common for him to lose. He was given the option to turn professional, but he knew he had a new family to support and turned down this once in a lifetime opportunity. He then went to work for the paper mill and working on his farm. He was up every morning before 5 with my grandma working to keep their farm running, and then it was off to the mill, and then back home at night to wrap things up on the farm. There was never a time when he wasn't working on something. He passed this work ethic onto my mom, and she onto me and my sister.

**Transition between reasons (giving reason 3):** Being a hard worker is a trait I am proud to have obtained from my grandpa, but the most important trait is learning from him that it is okay to speak your mind, and share your ideas with the world.

- d. **Elaborate on reason:** My grandpa was never one to sit back and keep his mouth shut. Many people may think that this was a bad thing, speaking your mind and pushing your ideas on others, but he did not do that either. When he spoke his mind he always did it in a respectful manner, and taught his children and grandchildren to do the same. It is one thing to tell people that they are wrong and you are right. It is completely different to just make your opinions known. Showing people that you have an opinion and a voice that matter. Without learning this trait, I would not be where I am today. I would probably be sitting in the back of an office somewhere keeping my mouth shut.

### III. Conclusion (Wrap up the speech)

- a. **Restate thesis:** I have many heroes but my grandpa Gene Erickson tops the list because of the respect he gives to his family, his hard working determination, and his motivation to let his opinions be known.
- b. **Wrap –up:** My grandpa has passed away 6 years ago this summer, and there is not a day that goes by where I do not miss him, but he is always with me. He has taught me many things and I carry the lessons with me and rely on them during good and bad times.
- c. **Thank your audience:** Thank you for listening to my speech about my hero.