

Around the World on My Birthday Speech



This assignment will provide an opportunity for you to organize and deliver a brief informative speech while you learn more about world events through exploring news occurring on your birthday.

Directions:

1. Visit the "What Happened on Your Birthday" section of The History Channel's website. The address is www.history.com.
2. Enter the month and day of your birthday in the box at the lower right hand of the web page and press "Go". At the left of the screen, you will now see many categories. Clicking on the categories brings up one or more options. Click the option you want, and an article about this event will appear in the center of the page.
3. Read the descriptions of events occurring around the world. Don't worry about the year. If you have trouble finding three events, you may search up to three days before/after your actual birthday. This should provide plenty of stories for you to read.
4. After reading the descriptions, select three events that you would like to share with the class. Only one of them may be from the world of entertainment or sports. Two of them must be current event, newsworthy stories.
5. If you need additional information, you may go to another source, but that source must then be cited in your speech. You cannot use Wikipedia for this or any speech.
6. Prepare a 3-4 minute informative speech. The three events that occurred on your birthday will be the main points of your speech. Remember to include an introduction, body and conclusion.

Requirements:

- Your speech **MUST** be 3-4 minutes long. No exceptions! There will not be any leeway on the time requirement. If you fail to meet the required time limit, points will be deducted.
- You will need to present three events (no more, no less) so make sure you really think out what events to choose.
- You will need to have at least one visual aid for each event (for a total of three). This could be three slides or three objects...
- Your speech must follow an outline. Please also include transition statements in between your Roman numerals. The outline is due _____. Please remember that you should have your own copy of your outline or note cards to follow when you give your speech. **If your outline is not turned in on the due date, you will lose 5 points for each day that it is late.**
- **DO NOT** bring any inappropriate objects for your speech! School rules still apply. Failure to follow this will result in a referral. If you are in doubt, see me!

Questions to ask yourself while preparing your speech:

1. Does my speech merely list a series of events without telling the significance of what happened during these events? Place importance on persons, places, and events by pointing out what makes the incident unusual, exciting, funny or meaningful.
2. Does my speech offer sufficient details about the event?
3. Do I have a clear introduction and conclusion?
4. Am I comfortable with my preparation for this speech?
5. Did I provide information beyond the basic fact?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Around the World on My Birthday Speech Rubric						
Delivery Items						
	5	4	3	2	1	Total
Body Posture and Movement	Stands strait and still. Uses purposeful movements.	Uses purposeful movements, but shifts or leans without distractions.	Fidgets or plays with materials and sometimes has purposeful movements.	Uses no purposeful movements and leans or shifts weight.	Posture or movement interferes or distracts from presentation.	
Gestures	Uses purposeful and natural gestures that complement the message.	Uses gestures in the presentation.	Occasionally uses gestures in the presentation.	Uses no gestures in the presentation.	Gestures contradict or distract from the message.	
Eye Contact	Maintains consistent eye contact with entire audience.	Maintains eye contact with most of the audience; most of the time.	Maintains eye contact, but does not have good variety.	Only occasionally looks at audience.	Has not eye contact with the audience.	
Volume and Projection	Speaks loudly and comfortably to be heard by the entire audience.	Speaks loudly enough to be heard by most audience members.	Sometimes speaks loudly enough to be heard by most of the audience.	Speaks softly causing some audience discomfort.	Cannot be heard.	
Rate/Pacing	Varies rate and pauses for natural effect throughout presentation.	Uses appropriate rate, but uses some vocal fillers that do not create distractions.	Speaks too rapidly or slowly, pauses and/or vocal fillers only somewhat distracting.	Speaks too rapidly or slowly, pauses and/or vocal fillers may disrupt speech.	Rate causes confusion; vocal fillers create distraction.	
Language Use	Uses language and grammar that enhance audience understanding.	Uses clear language and proper grammar.	Uses language that is occasionally confusing.	Uses language that is awkward and creates discomfort or confusion.	Uses language that is inappropriate for the audience or occasion.	
Total						/30
Organization and Structure						
	5	4	3	2	1	
Introduction	The attention getter is interesting and appropriate, the topic and purpose are clearly stated, and the main points are clearly identified and established.	The attention getter is appropriate, the topic or the purpose is clearly stated, and the main points are listed.	The attention getter is present, but it does not have enough development even though the topic or the purpose is stated, and the main points are listed.	The attention getter is present, there is an attempt to state the topic or purpose, and the main points are partially listed.	The attention getter is not present or weak, no topic or purpose is stated, and the main points are missing or unclear.	
Body	The speaker signals and follows a clear and logical organizational pattern and transitions are used to provide a clear relationship of one idea to the next.	The speaker uses a clear organizational pattern and transitions provide a clear relationship of one idea to the next.	The speaker attempts to use a pattern and a few transitions are used to provide relationships of ideas.	The speaker attempts to use a pattern , but the speaker does not transition from one idea to the next.	The speaker is unorganized and transitions are not used.	
Conclusion	A clear final ending is used that relates to the attention-getter, summarizes , and concludes the speech.	A clear final ending is used to summarize and conclude the speech.	The close of the speech is mentioned, but it is a little unclear.	The close of the speech is mentioned, but it is lacking proper development.	The speech ends abruptly or incompletely.	
Elaboration and Explanation	Explanations are clear, interesting, well developed, and balanced.	The speaker meets 3 of the criteria.	The speaker meets 2 of the criteria.	The speaker meets 1 of the criteria.	The speaker meets none of the criteria.	
Support and Citations	A variety of types of resources are used which clearly support the speaker's ideas and sources are clearly referenced.	Resources are utilized that support the speaker's ideas and sources are referenced.	Resources are used, but there purpose is unclear.	An insufficient number of resources are used and sources are not clearly referenced.	There are no resources used and sources are not cited.	
Visual Aid	Visual aid adds to the overall presentation in a way that improves the overall speech.	Visual aid adds to the overall presentation.	Visual aid is present, but does not add to the overall presentation.	Visual aid does not detract from the overall presentation.	Visual aid is not present or detracts from the overall presentation.	
Total						/30
Meeting the Purpose						
	5	4	3	2	1	
Assignment Expectations	The speaker meets the time requirements.	The speaker is 0-20 seconds above or below the required time.	The speaker is 21-40 seconds above or below the required time.	The speaker is over 40-60 seconds above or below the required time.	The speaker is 1 minute or more above or below the required time.	
Total						/5
Speech Total						/65

