

Sample outline for self-introduction speech

I. Introduction

a. Attention Getting Device

When I was little, I thought I'd grow up to be a fashion designer, an actress, and a teacher..

b. Purpose / Thesis Statement

Let me tell you how I ended up teaching English at Fuquay-Varina High School.

c. Main Points Preview

I will show you how I am represented by this paint brush, this hat, and this rock.

d. Transition to Body

I'll start with the paintbrush.

II. Item #1: Art has always been an important part of my life. I was painting before I could walk.

a. **Sub Point 1:** I am the daughter, the niece, the granddaughter, and the sister of artists. In other words, I come from a long line of artists.

b. **Sub Point 2:** When I was growing up, my favorite place to play was in my dad's art studio. Sometimes I would paint along side my dad; sometimes I would just sit on the floor and watch him paint. He was ambidextrous, meaning he could paint with both hands equally well. He was amazing.

c. **Sub Point 3:** It seemed obvious that I would grow up to be an artist. I thought I wanted to be a fashion designer. From the time I was nine years old I designed clothes, made patterns for them, and then made my creations.

d. Transition to Main Point 2

By the time I left for college, I had added acting to my list of possible professions. I was really confused, which brings me to this crazy looking hat.

III. Item #2: College is where I discovered what I really wanted to do with my life. I've earned both a bachelor's and a master's degree. For each graduation, I wore a hat like this one. It is called a mortarboard.

a. **Sub Point 1:** I quickly ruled out acting because I suffered from terrible stage fright, but I continued to take art classes.

b. **Sub Point 2:** I also discovered that I am a very good writer. In fact, people were always asking me to help them with papers. You have to write a lot of papers in college!

c. **Sub Point 3:** I decided to major in Technical Writing. Technical writers write things like product instructions and manuals. I received my bachelor's degree in 1987 and my master's degree in teaching almost 25 years later.

d. Transition to Main Point 3

Although it might seem weird, college led me to this rock.

IV. Item #3: I met my husband in college, but we had actually grown up just a few streets apart. One of the things I love about him is his sense of adventure. We have lived many places in the United States, and briefly we lived in Europe.

a. **Sub Point 1:** He is a retired Marine, and we've had a lot of exciting adventures because of his job; however, our most exciting adventure so far happened after

he retired.

- b. **Sub Point 2:** Ten years ago, we spent three months traveling through Europe. I pulled this rock out of Aysgarth Falls in North Yorkshire, England. I was in the very spot where Kevin Costner filmed Robin Hood. It was during this journey that I remembered how much I love the English language.
- c. **Sub Point 3:** I knew that I wanted to teach, so I decided to go back to college one more time. When I graduated from NC State, I wore the mortarboard again. I must really love odd looking hats!
- d. **Transition to Conclusion:** This long and winding journey brought me to Fuquay-Varina High School.

V. Conclusion

- a. **Review Main Points:** So you can see that I love art, education, and adventure.
- b. **Connect back to Intro/AGD:** I never became a professional artist or actress, but my journey brought me to what I most enjoy doing. That is being an English teacher.
- c. **Clear Finish:** Thank you for listening to the story of how I came to teach at Fuquay-Varina High School.