

Informative Speech Outline

Specific Goal: My audience will understand the advantages of learning one or more languages in addition to their native language.

Application: The audience may make the decision to learn a new language and experience the benefits.

Ethos: Primary Ethos: I have lived in a different culture for a large amount of time, having to have learned a language and now experience the benefits.

Secondary Ethos: I will cite three references out loud in my speech.

Pathos: I will make a brief statement in a different language to remind them how they may feel when speaking to someone that they do not understand.

Logos: I will use research data for those who both speak more than one language and those who do not, emphasizing on the benefits.

Audience Assessment: Many in the audience will most likely know a bilingual person, but may not know why it is a good thing to learn a second language.

Adaptation to Audience: I will explain very clearly different advantages and focus more on the ones they might be interested in (ej. Young student might be more interested in the increase in mental capacity).

Pattern of Organization: The introduction will have a chronological pattern and the body will have a cause-effect.

Introduction

- I. Hook:** Haven't we all wanted to know what people are saying when they are speaking a different language right in front of us?
 - A. I know I have experienced that before in my life on multiple occasions.
 - B. Por ejemplo, ahora muchos de ustedes tal vez no me entienden.
 - C. Many probably did not understand that word for word.
 - D. After spending two years in a different country with a different language, I was able to learn some things.
- II. Thesis:** There are many advantages to knowing a second language than simply eavesdropping on someone's conversation.
- III. Preview:** I would like to focus on three main areas that are advantageous.
 - A. First, the support in academic achievement.
 - B. Second, the cognitive benefits.
 - C. Third, the effect on attitudes and beliefs towards other cultures and our own.

Transition: Let us take a second to think about it individually, I am not sure if it is something any of you have considered doing before.

Body

- I. But whether you have or not, it is important to know that you all have the capacity to learn a second language if you would like to.
 - A. Many studies have been done in school settings to see the impact made on language learning.
 - B. One study done with two classes in an elementary school shows results for what can happen when being taught a language, stating:
 - C. "Analysis of the results showed the groups receiving language instruction had higher mean scores than the control group in arithmetic and English grammar, although their scores were slightly lower than the control group in English punctuation, comprehension, and vocabulary". (Johnson, 1961)
 - D. Though these were children, it can be applied to all of us, it is not impossible to learn a language.

Transition: There are many places besides school that we can learn a language, such as visiting other countries, so what other benefits are there?

- II. Now we will take a look at a few of the benefits we can receive, besides getting better grades on our tests in school.
 - A. Learning a language pushes our brain, and like any muscle it gets stronger the more we use it, thus giving us an extra boost of brain power, opening more pathways for the brain to use.
 - B. A website I came across, "Examined Existence," mentions a few more common improvements are in: multi-tasking, onset of dementia, memory, decision-making, and many more. (12 benefits...)
 - C. It can truly have a greater effect on our lives than solely the way we communicate.

Transition: Another nice thing, you will not only learn the language, but there is opportunity to learn so much more.

- III. Learning more languages allows us to learn more about the world and view differently the cultures around us.
 - A. First of all, we learn so much about our own language that we did not even know before.
 - B. When I learned Spanish, even up until today, I have come to realize so many common mistakes in English and even why we say some of the things we do.

- C. A study also performed on elementary students provides the following results:
- D. “An experimental group of 63 5th grade pupils who had been learning Spanish and a matched controlled group of pupils who had not been learning Spanish were tested to determine attitudes toward people of other countries. The experimental group had significantly more positive attitudes toward the Spanish-speaking peoples they had studied about than did the group that had not studied Spanish”. (Riestra, 1964)
- E. It is clear that learning about other languages and the cultures they come from can significantly reduce prejudices against others.

Transition: There is so many more things that I could go into based on my personal experience from having learned spanish.

Conclusion

- IV. To bring this all around, another huge benefit is that of being higher qualified when you apply for a job, who does not like someone who can speak more than one language?
 - A. That is in addition to increasing your brain power.
 - B. The studies truly show an increase in academic approvemnet, world wide.
 - C. Many countries around the world have already implemented bilingual learning starting at an early age.
- V. Learning a second language will not only change your own life, but it can change others as well.

References

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