

Assignment #1: “Elevator Speech”

Type of Speech: Self-introduction

Time Limit: 1 minute

Purpose: The primary purpose of this speech is to give you an immediate opportunity to get up and speak in front of the class. In addition, your speech allows your instructors and classmates to get to know you better.

NOTE: This introductory speech assignment will not be evaluated.

Assignment Summary: This is a one minute speech of self-introduction. The purpose of the assignment is to give you a chance to “break the ice” with the audience. An “Elevator Speech” is a short self-introduction that is about the same amount of time it would take you to ride to the top of a building in an elevator. Begin your speech by introducing yourself (name) and then develop the body of your speech according to include all of the following points:

#1. What is one of YOUR greatest accomplishments?

This can be anything you feel proud of. Like learning how to do something that was challenging, winning an award, taking part in a service project, or anything you received recognition for. If you really can’t think of something, you can talk about something you are planning to do in the future (ex. Eagle Project, charity work, fitness goal, etc.).

#2. What makes YOU unique?

Tell us about one positive characteristic you possess that makes you special. You might have a unique sense of humor, be a good listener, be great at playing video games, etc. This is your opportunity to “toot your own horn” and share something good about yourself.

#3. What do YOU want to get out of this class?

Even if your mother signed you up for this class against your will, we’d like to hear what YOU would like to get out of this class. What would you like to know, learn, accomplish by the end of the semester? It could be as simple as you’d like to feel more comfortable speaking in front of a group, or something as complex as you’d learn how write a good speech so you can be on a debate team one day!