Speech Content

*What is content?*

Content deals with what you say in your speech, not so much how you say it. A speech that has strong content gives details and support for what is being said.

*What does content have to do with the senior boards speech?*

In your senior project speech, be sure to give details on each of the following elements.

**Yourself:** Who are you? What is your history as a student in Carson City Schools?

**Your topic:** Tell us what you chose and why.

**Your project:** Tell us what you did for your project, why you did it, how it relates to the research, what the learning stretch was, what successes you had, what problems you encountered and how you conquered these challenges.

**Your Future:** Did the Sr. Project assist you in your possible future goals? What are your goals? Where do you see yourself in five, ten, or twenty years from now?

*Why are details and support important?*

Details and support are what make the speech interesting to listen to. They help differentiate your senior project from the 400 other projects at your school. Details and support also add proof for what you are saying, in this case that you actually completed the project.



Details and support are essential for an interesting and convincing speech. Try to add specifics over generalities. Instead of saying, *I like fast-paced movies*, say *I like martial arts movies such as* Shangai Noon *or* Double Impact*.*

**Example**

**Little detail:** I chose cycling as my topic because I like it.

**More detail:** I chose bicycle racing as my project because I have always wanted to compete in cycling. I have been riding for enjoyment for three years now, but chose to challenge myself by competing in a local street race.

**Practice**



Look at your senior project evaluation form. Rate each of the following excerpts on the scale of 1-4 in content.

* I hate flying. It seems that more and more flights are delayed and luggage is lost. The FAA statistics show the problem is only getting increasingly worse in recent years. Last year, when I flew to Cincinnati to visit my grandmother for Christmas, they lost my luggage and I had to go to the family dinner with the jeans I wore on the plane.
* Flying is frustrating because there are delays and sometimes my luggage gets lost. Once, I couldn’t get on a flight because it was overbooked, so I couldn’t go to Vegas.
* Flying is frustrating.
* Flying these days seems more frustrating than ever. The FAA reports that in November of 1998, 83 percent of flights arrived on time, while in November of 2000 that number dropped to 78.1 percent. And what about those times when you reserve a seat, only to discover the airline has overbooked the flight? The FAA states that in the July-September period of 1999, 7,813 passengers were involuntarily denied access to a flight as a result of overbooking. This number increased to 13,736 for the same period in the year 2000.

 YOUR TURN

Create a speech about your pet peeve. Be sure to provide justification (details and support) for why you are rightfully irritated.