

## Self-Introduction Speech Assignment

**Speech Type:** Extemporaneous

**Time:** 2 – 3 minutes (“safe” 1:30 – 3:30)

**General Purpose:** To Inform

**Specific Purpose:** To inform the audience about how a selected object symbolizes/relates to you/your life!

**Organizational Pattern:** Topical

The purpose of this speech is to inform your audience about some part of you or your life through a selected object that reflects who you are. The object may represent you literally and/or figuratively! Your object may be food, clothing, shoes, a piece of jewelry, equipment or tools for a hobby or sport, some product, etc. Use this object as a foundation to share important and unique information about yourself to the class. This speech will help you all connect as a class for future speeches!

### Specific Requirements:

1. Select an object that reflects something about who you are. Have fun with this assignment!
2. Using this object, develop 2 – 3 main ideas that describe the connection between the object and you.
3. Use these ideas to create Main Points and develop an outline with an Introduction, Body (describing those 2 – 3 Main Points), and Conclusion.
4. Prepare note cards, based off of your outline, and practice giving the speech from them.
5. As you practice your speech, decide how and when you will show/use the object. Also time yourself each time to make sure you are within the time window (you will lose 5% of the speech grade for every 30 seconds over or under the 2 – 3 window; for instance, a speech that is 3:31 would receive a 5% reduction).
6. Practice your speech several times – this will increase your confidence and familiarity with the information. Pay attention to eye contact, gestures, and the volume and speed of your voice. Do not try to memorize the speech!
7. Revise your note cards as needed so they are more useful to you – use larger writing, or draw pictures or symbols to remind yourself about delivery.
8. On the day of your speech dress up a little! This will help increase your confidence, and make you appear more credible to the audience.
9. On the day of your speech, remember to bring your object (visual aid), your note cards to present from, and your outline and evaluation form to turn in.