**Tips for Giving a Speaking Final**

**Format Options:**

Impromptu Speech:

[For the review session, create an assignment handout detailing what you want to see in their speech.]

1. Write down several different level-appropriate topics on separate slips of paper and put them in a container. [It’s best to choose topics that students can relate to or might have some level of background knowledge for.]

2. Assign the order of speakers/presenters. This can be done by randomly picking numbers out of a hat, or done alphabetically, etc…]

3. Allow the first speaker to select a topic from the container and give them a set amount of time to prepare.

4. Just before the first speaker begins their speech, allow speaker # 2 to select a topic from the container. They can prepare their response while speaker # 1 is giving their speech. Repeat this process for each remaining speaker.

\* If you want a way to keep the rest of the students occupied and involved, prepare a short rubric sheet with which they can evaluate each speaker anonymously.

* Variation: Make appointments for when you want each student to show up for their speech. For example, Ahmed’s appointment is at 3pm. He receives his topic at 3pm and gives his speech to you at 3:05pm. Juan’s appointment is at 3:05pm. He receives his topic at 3:05pm and gives his speech at 3:10pm. Anyone who comes late for their appointment can come back at the end of the line.

Prepared Presentation:

1. Give each student a topic/select from a hat during the last day or so of class, and tell them what you want to see in their presentation. Make an assignment handout.

2. Assign the order of speakers/presenters by randomly picking numbers out of a hat, or done alphabetically, etc….]

3. Use the final exam time for students to give their presentations or give them during the last day/days of class.

**Variations by Levels**

**Level 2 Speaking Final: [Doing Impromptu Speeches]**

1. Everyone gets the same topic: Ex: *Describe a place you visited*

2. Require every student to tell you the same three things about the topic: Ex: *Tell me about the*

*weather, food, and what you can do there*

3. Give everyone a blank outline form to fill out to prepare for their speech. Allow 10 -15 minutes

for them to prepare their outline.

4. Collect all completed outlines at the end of the 10- 15 minutes.

5. Give each speaker back his/her outline when they get up to speak.

6. Give the rest of students blank outline forms to fill out as they listen to speaker. You can use the same format as the original blank outline. Just shorten it to allow 3 -4 per one side of a page.

7. Give each speaker 2 - 3 minutes

8. Re-collect outline from each speaker after they present.

**Sample Outline Form:**

Topic: [The place you visited] \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. The weather:

2. The food:

3. What you can do there:

Other topics:

1. Describe an activity you like to do.

2. Describe your favorite sport.

**Level 3 Speaking Final [Sample Topics]**

Topics: [These are opinion topics that don’t require research]

1. What should someone consider in choosing a university? Support your answer.
2. What should someone consider in choosing a major? Support your answer.
3. What can people do to help/protect the environment? Support your answer.
4. What can people do to save money? Support your answer.
5. What can someone do to get good grades? Support your answer.
6. What can someone do to get/find a good job? Support your answer.
7. What should people do to stay healthy? Support your answer.
8. What should people do to be a good driver? Support your answer.
9. What can people do to stay safe on social media? Support you answer.
10. Why should someone use social media? Support your answer.
11. Should everyone have a cellphone? Support your answer.
12. Why do people want to learn a second language? Support your answer.
13. The best invention in the world so far is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because…
14. Is it better to cook at home or to eat out in a restaurant? Support your answer.
15. Should students be allowed to use their cell phones in class? Support your answer.
16. What are the best video games of 2019? Choose 3 -5 games and support your answer.
17. What are the best social media apps of 2019? Support your answer.
18. Why should people travel? Support your answer.
19. What are the three best places to live in the world? Support your answer.
20. What are three problems in your country? Support your answer.
21. Should countries have borders or should people be allowed to travel freely? Support your answer……or………..
22. Should people be allowed to travel anywhere in the world without a visa? Support your answer.

**Level 4 Speaking Final**

Choose ten semi-academic topics that require them to do some research. Choose topics for which they might have some background knowledge and can come up with some supports. Have each student select a topic at random on the last day of class, and give them until the final exam time to prepare a five minute presentation on their topic. You can assign each student an appointment time during the 2 hour final exam period at which they need to show up to present. You could also require them to use a visual aid like PowerPoint.

Sample Topics: [These are opinion topics that require research for support]

* Are "girls only" and "boys only" schools better for education? Support your answer with research.
* Do you need a college degree to be successful? Support your answer with research.
* Should people be allowed to smoke in public places? Support your answer with research.
* What are three/four important inventions of the last 100 years? Support your answer with research.
* What should someone do to stay healthy?. Support your answer with research.
* What type of animal makes the best pet? Support your answer with research.
* What are three reasons why people become homeless? Support your answer with research.
* Choose three people who have changed the world and tell me how they changed it.
* Which is more important, wealth or education? Support your opinion with three

good reasons.

* What are three reasons why flying is the best mode of transport? Support your answer with research.

**Level 5 Speaking Final: [10 or fewer students]**

[Variation on the presentation format]

Choose ten academic topics that require them to do some research; have each student select a topic at random on the last day of class, and give them until the final exam time to prepare a five – seven minute presentation on their topic. Set appointment times for when each student is supposed to show up and present. You could require them to use a visual aid like PowerPoint.

Sample Topics: [These are expository topics that require research for support]

* What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of playing video games? Support your answer with research
* Explain some of the causes (or effects) of juvenile crime/delinquency in the U.S. Support your answer with research
* How Can We Prevent School Violence? Support your answer with research
* What are the main effects of bullying?...or… How can we prevent bullying? [could focus on physical bullying or online bullying or both] Support your answer with research
* Explain the main causes of global warming. Or… 2. Explain the main effect of global warming. (Give the causes to one student and the effect to another). Support your answer with research
* Explain the main causes of divorce in the United States. Support your answer with research
* Should a government have to provide free healthcare to its citizens? Support your answer with research
* Explain some advantages and disadvantages of social media? Support your answer with research
* Explain some advantages and disadvantages of online education? Support your answer with research
* Explain the advantages and disadvantages of using a smart phone. Support your answer with research.
* Does “cancel culture” go too far when punishing people for what they say or do?
* Given one choice, who should you save in an emergency: a young person or an old person?
* Should every person be required to serve a period of time in the national military?
* Should each individual person have a choice in how they manage coronavirus?
* Should the government raise the minimum age of retirement eligibility?
* Who should determine what media people have access to?
* Should people first help themselves or first help others around them?
* Should high school students be required to complete community service projects as a condition of their graduation?