Research Speech Guidelines

10th Grade (30 points)

Time

* 3-5 minutes for your speech. This is uninterrupted time.
* Suggest 30 seconds each for introduction and conclusion, and 2-4 minutes for body

Attire

* Dress professionally (or appropriately for presenting your subject matter).
* 5 points will automatically be deducted if not.

Materials

* Visual aid required (picture(s), map, chart, graph, demo, prop, video clip, etc.). If electronic, this needs to be shared or emailed to me in advance (or saved to a flashdrive).
* Your choice of visual aid should enhance your speech and NOT dominate it or distract from it. Remember, the art of speaking involves *speaking*!
* Notecards are optional. (Do NOT write out your entire speech, or cut and paste your essay, onto notecards!) Write bullet points on notecards as cues to guide and organize.

Introduction

* Attention Getter: Grab the audience’s attention and create immediate interest.
* Background: Provide relevant background information on the topic.
* Audience Relevance: Give the audience clear, compelling reasons for why this topic is relevant to them.
* Speaker Credibility: The speaker clearly discloses a connection between him/herself and the topic and/or gives a reason for personally caring about the topic.
* Thesis: A strong thesis sets the tone and direction for the speech. Express it in a complete declarative sentence, clearly and creatively.
* Preview: Preview by using signposts and state the main points using clear, concise phrasing. You may say, “I will first discuss…and then…with my final point being….”

Body

* Main points that support the thesis/topic are clearly stated and well-developed using a variety of supporting examples, details, or explanations.
* Organize in a) logical order for sequence of understanding or b) least to most important for main points/examples.
* Give credit if you used outside resources. For example, “According to a study by….”
* Use appropriate transitions to indicate shifts to new examples or sections of the speech. For example: first, second, third, final, next, most important, etc.

Conclusion

* Signal Transition to Conclusion: Clearly indicate the beginning of conclusion through the use of a signpost and through vocal tone, gestures, movement, and/or a brief pause. Do not use “in conclusion….”
* Restate Thesis: Clearly restate thesis with impact.
* Review Main Points: Review by using appropriate signposts and clearly restate all of the main points.
* Memorable Closer: The closer should refer back to the attention getter effectively and memorably end the speech.