## **Choosing Your Speech Topic**

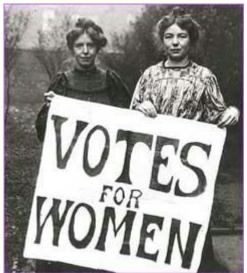
**GOAL:** To choose a **debatable**, **researchable** topic for your speech that you feel really *excited* and *passionate* about!

## **HELPFUL REMINDERS:**

- You are not limited to the topics listed below; this is just a guide to help you get started. If you have a different idea, please talk to your check-in teacher.
- You will be working on this speech unit for four weeks, and your experience will be much better if you choose a topic you feel passionate about!
- As you figure out your topic choices, make sure that you are filling out the "Refining Your Speech Topic" worksheet located in your folder

Once you are assigned your speech topic, you will NOT be able to change it! Choose wisely!







## **Education**

- Homework/Grades
- Importance of arts
- School start time
- Bilingual education
- Standardized tests (High school exit exam, SAT/ACT)
- Physical education (PE)
- Religion in public schools
- Underperforming schools and achievement gap in the U.S.
- Rising cost of college tuition / Student debt
- Zero-tolerance policies

## Media

- Censorship of media (music, TV, internet, etc.)
- Violence in video games/ media
- Social media & privacy
  - | Bullying/ cyberbullying

Portrayal of race, gender, & beauty in the media

SOPA/PIPA (Online privacy)

Net neutrality

Science Genetically modified foods Stem cell research Cloning	<ul> <li>Environment</li> <li>Animal rights</li> <li>Vegetarianism/ veganism</li> <li>Electric vehicles</li> </ul>		
		Human or animal drug testing	• Air pollution
		Evolution vs. Creationism	Conservation of resources
		Gene mapping	Preservation of public land/ parks
Alternative energy	Recycling		
	Global warming		
	Overpopulation		
	Growth of cities and environmental sustainability		
Social Issues	Politics (American & International)		
Abortion	Gun control		
Gay marriage	Immigration		
Class issues	DREAM Act		
Women's rights	Universal health care		
Racism / Stereotypes	Taxes		
Legalization of marijuana	Campaign finance		
Death penalty	Corruption in government		
Racial profiling	Nuclear weapons		
	Neo-colonialism / globalization		
	Working conditions / sweatshops		
	Iraq War		
	Middle East Conflict		
Health	Teen Issues		
Food portion controls (for example: getting rid of •	Teenage rights		
super size option)	Teen pregnancy/Safe sex		
Obesity	Curfews		
Eating disorders	Driving age		
Pressure to be thin/ body image	Gangs		
Suicide prevention/ awareness	Bullying		
Self-harm prevention/ awareness	Drinking age		