

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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genetically modified foods • Stem cell research • Cloning • Human or animal drug testing • Evolution vs. Creationism • Gene mapping • Alternative energy 	Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal rights • Vegetarianism/ veganism • Electric vehicles • Air pollution • Conservation of resources • Preservation of public land/ parks • Recycling • Global warming • Overpopulation • Growth of cities and environmental sustainability
Social Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abortion • Gay marriage • Class issues • Women's rights • Racism / Stereotypes • Legalization of marijuana • Death penalty • Racial profiling 	Politics (American & International) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gun control • Immigration • DREAM Act • Universal health care • Taxes • Campaign finance • Corruption in government • Nuclear weapons • Neo-colonialism / globalization • Working conditions / sweatshops • Iraq War • Middle East Conflict
Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food portion controls (for example: getting rid of super size option) • Obesity • Eating disorders • Pressure to be thin/ body image • Suicide prevention/ awareness • Self-harm prevention/ awareness 	Teen Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teenage rights • Teen pregnancy/Safe sex • Curfews • Driving age • Gangs Bullying Drinking age