

Pass/Fail Speech Exercise #1

Hooks with enthusiasm and eye contact

Extemporaneous Assignment

- In class today you will get assigned a broad topic. For example, you might get assigned the topic of “Sports” or “Money” or “Computers” or “Games.”
- First, you should narrow that topic to a specific purpose for either an informative or persuasive speech. For example, if I got the topic of “Computers,” I might create the following Specific Purpose statement for an informative speech.
 - Specific Purpose: to inform the class about security threats to mobile computer devices like phones and tablets.
- Now that you know what your speech specific purpose would be, your task for this exercise is to create a Hook (attention getter) for that speech, practice that attention getter, and come prepared to deliver it in class.
- Various Hook options were discussed in class, and are available on the class website lecture material. They include using quotations, rhetorical questions, personal anecdotes, startling statistics, or jokes.
- The delivery of your hook should last at least 15 seconds, and should show substantial eye contact and enthusiasm in your voice and facial expression.
- Pass: if your hook is effective and well delivered, then you pass the exercise and can reasonably be expected to do equally well or better on all future graded speeches.
- Fail: if your hook is ineffective either because the content did not work, or because it was delivered poorly, then you will have to do this exercise again until you pass.
- The goal of this assignment is obviously to get you practicing how to do effective hooks, but also to make sure that you can do that successfully before you have to be graded on it.

Impromptu Assignment

- After the Extemporaneous version of this assignment is complete, we will do it again with an impromptu version. Impromptu means that you will get your topics only minutes before having to do the speech.
- Just like the extemporaneous version of the speech, you will get a broad topic assigned to you. You will narrow it down to a specific purpose statement, and create a hook for an introduction on that topic. Unless you have a quote, proverb, or song lyric memorized that you can use, you should stick to rhetorical questions and personal anecdotes.
- Deliver your hook in at least 15 seconds, and show substantial eye contact and enthusiasm in your voice and facial expression.
- Pass/Fail: the pass and fail standards for this impromptu speech are the same as for the extemporaneous version.