

## **Some Strange Speeches**

**NOTE TO THE TEACHER:** Read each of the following speeches aloud. Each one may need to be read more than once and you may want to choose a good reader to “practice” and deliver the last two since they mimic student presentations. Ask students to imagine that each is a real presentation that they heard and must tell you what the problem is in each speech.

1. Students, today I have some sad news for you. As of today, there will be no more field trips. There are two reasons for this and ‘missing’ is the key word for each reason!

First, other teachers are upset because the students who go on the field trips do not make up their work. School board policy says that you have 3 days to make up the work missed if you participate in a field trip. Unfortunately, a large percent of students make no effort to turn in missed work.

In conclusion, I hope that you understand that this is a decision that was not easily made. Because of the missing assignments and the missing students, there will be no more field trips at all.

(Although this speech has a beginning, middle and ending, it is incomplete. The second supporting reason (missing students) is not there.)

2. I guess it would be important to decide what kind you wanted to make but chocolate is my favorite. Then you would have to have some pans and the ingredients to put in it. You also have to have the plate for it and a mixer. When you put in the ingredients you need to measure carefully so I think you need a measuring cup. Your mom might want you to wash all the dishes you used so be sure to put them in the dishwasher. There are directions on the box that you can follow. When you are finished, invite some friends over to share. The oven has to be turned on and you need to be very careful because it will be hot. If you don’t set the temperature correctly, the cake will burn.

(There is no beginning, middle or ending to this oral presentation. The statements are out of order and the listeners don’t even know what the speaker is talking about until the last sentence.)

3. My name is Dave and I am running for the student council president at my school. I am going to tell you why you should vote for me.

First, this is my third year in this middle school. I know most of the teachers, students, and really understand the problems that we have. I know the bathrooms are sometimes crowded and that the water fountain doesn't always work.

Second, I was the student council vice president last year so I know how the student government works and what it should accomplish. We started some projects last year that I would like to finish this year.

Third, I will work for you. I want to leave this school in better shape than when I first came here. People who know me, know that I keep my word, just ask them!

In conclusion, that's all.

(This speech as a poor ending. The final paragraph should recap the three reasons for voting for Dave.)

## Student Topics for Oral Presentations

NOTE TO THE TEACHER: Cut the topics apart and give a strip to each student. More than one student can have the same topic. Students should copy the topics onto their papers. Allow 5 minutes for students to write a 3-4 sentence **introductory** paragraph. Each student then passes the paper to the person behind him. This student writes a 3-4 sentence **middle** for the topic. Allow 5 minutes. Each student then passes the paper to the person behind him or her one more time. This time, the student writes a 2-3 sentence **conclusion** to the topic. Return the papers to the original owners. **For assessment purposes, each student should write his/her name beside the paragraphs he/she writes.**

Taking care of a dog

What makes little kids afraid of kindergarten

How to wash the dishes by hand

Things to know about babysitting

How to behave in an assembly program

The rules of this classroom

Why homework is good

Why homework is not good

How to make good grades in school

Qualities of a good friend

TV can be good for you

TV can be bad for you

Making a peanut butter and banana sandwich

How to wash the car