You don't have to be afraid of impromptu speeches. There is a way to conquer this scary task! All you have to do is practice making quick speech outlines in your head. When you work from an outline, you'll find it easy to fill in the supporting statements.

Use this list of impromptu speech topics to practice making a quickie speech outline in your head. For each of the topics below, just think of three main points you'd like to make.

For example, if your speech topic is "Your least favorite chores," you could quickly come up with three statements:

* I don't know anybody who likes to fold laundry, so the first task on my list of unhappy chores is folding laundry.
* Taking out the trash is another chore that most people dread, and I'm no different.
* The worst chore in the entire household has to be cleaning the toilet.

If you go into your speech with these statements in your head, you can spend the rest of your time thinking up supporting statements as you speak. It's really not so hard to do that.

When you've identified your three main points, think of a great finishing statement. If you end with a great closer, you'll really impress your audience.

Start practicing with this list: (and make something up if you can’t think of anything)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * My three favorite animals. * What you would find in my closet. * What you'd find under my bed. * The best letter of the alphabet. * A day that stands out. * The best surprise ever. * I lost it! * If I had a million dollars to give away. * If cats/dogs ruled the world. * A trip to remember. * My favorite day of the year. * If I could only eat three foods forever. * If I could design a school. * Why books are important. * Three surprising facts about me. * How to impress your parents. * How to plan a party. * A job I'd love to have. * A day in my life. * If I could have dinner with anyone. * If I could travel through time. * My favorite book. * An important lesson I've learned. * What I've learned from cartoons. | * Three things I'd change if I ruled the world. * The worst chores at home. * Why I deserve an allowance. * If I were in charge of school lunches. * If I had invented school. * The best theme park rides. * How to achieve your dreams. * Why you need a baby brother. * How to annoy an older sister. * How to save money. * Three things that scare me. * Great things about snow days. * Things you can make out of snow. * How to spend a rainy day. * How to walk a dog. * Great things about the ocean. * Things I'll never eat. * How to be a slacker. * Why I like my town. * The best parts of a parade. * Interesting things you see in the sky. * Things to remember when you're camping. * The smartest cartoon character |

**Grade Conditions:**

To earn 5 participation points you must do the following:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| bullet | Follow the above outline format during your speech. |
| bullet | Walk and talk FLUENTLY during transitions. |
| bullet | Speak for at least least 90 seconds. |
| bullet | Your speech must be school appropriate. |

**Sample Outline:**

*Topic Drawn: Three things you couldn’t live without*

1. Introduction:
   1. Restate topic.
   2. Give your answers.
   3. If possible get our attention: rhetorical question, quick story, analogy.
   4. TRANSITION TO BODY A (first most important thing). WALK AND TALK.

(Example: "Now, let's look at my first most important thing, my cell phone."

1. Body:
   1. First most important thing: explain it, define it, answer why it’s so important.
      1. TRANSITION to second most important thing. WALK AND TALK. (Example: "My iPhone 6 sure is important, but it's nothing compared to my Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle lunch box.)
   2. Second most important thing: explain it, define it, answer why it’s so important
      1. TRANSITION to third most important thing. WALK AND TALK.

(Example: "Let's move on and look at my third most important thing, clean underwear!)

* 1. Third most important thing: explain it, define it, answer why it’s so important
     1. TRANSITION to conclusion. WALK AND TALK.

(Example: "In conclusion . . . )

1. Conclusion
   1. Restate topic.
   2. Give your answer.
   3. Make reference to attention grabber.
   4. Thank the audience.

It seems like a lot, but it should really take you 60-90 seconds to deliver. Good Luck!