

## GENERAL CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING SPEECHES

**The *average speech* (grade C) should meet the following criteria:**

1. Conform to the kind of speech assigned (informative, persuasive, etc)
2. Be ready for presentation on the assigned date
3. Conform to the time limit
4. Fulfill any special requirements of the assignment, such as preparing a mind map, is properly dressed, etc.
5. Have a clear specific purpose and central idea
6. Have an identifiable introduction, body and conclusion
7. Show reasonable directness and competence in delivery
8. Be free of serious errors in grammar, pronunciation and word usage

**The *above average speech* (grade B) should meet the preceding criteria and also:**

1. Deal with a challenging topic
2. Fulfill all major functions of a speech introduction and conclusion
3. Display clear organization of main points and supporting materials
4. Support main points with evidence that meets the tests of accuracy, relevance, objectivity, and sufficiency
5. Exhibit proficient use of connectives -- transitions, internal previews, internal summaries and signposts
6. Be delivered skillfully enough so as not to distract attention from the speaker's message

**The *superior speech* (grade A) should meet all the preceding criteria and also:**

1. Constitute a genuine contribution by the speaker to the knowledge or beliefs of the audience
2. Sustain positive interest, feeling and/or commitment among the audience
3. Contain elements of vividness and special interest in the use of language
4. Be delivered in a fluent, polished manner that strengthens the impact of the speaker's message

**The *below average speech* (grade D or F) is seriously deficient in the criteria required for the C speech.**