

US History B
Erickson
Speech Assignment

You, *yes you*, will be giving a speech that will need to be 3-6 minutes long and must be relevant to the time period 1960-Present. Your speech will be for **proficiency credit** and you will also get a grade for the speech itself. Remember that this is a **speech and not a read**—I cannot give you credit if you tell me what google knows. Make sure you take ownership of your topic, and tell us what you know, not that you can read.

A visual aide (not something you just found in 10 seconds) will also be required for full credit, so make it memorable and helpful to your cause. You will need to print this off before you come to class—I am not a printer! ☺ Also, no powerpoints...more on that below.

Watch your language! No, not like that. More like: do you rely heavily on “um”, and, “ya know”...or is your speech eloquent and fluid? And your delivery—be sure you don’t talk in a monotone voice and again, act like you know your material. Don’t just read it—make eye contact with us.

We will randomly draw for speech topics, and no two people can have the same topic. Topics can be divided, however, when possible: Olympics could be divided into: German athletes taking steroids, the Munich Olympics Shootings, the Olympics boycotts, “Miracle” the hockey Olympics, etc. **You will sign up for your speech date and be expected to be ready at that time. Please also dress nicely for your speech.**

Lastly, **no powerpoints** will be allowed as they take too much time to connect, but feel free to make a powerpoint and print color photos to place under the doc cam or make something that shows us about your topic. We just don’t have time to hook the computer up for random presentations. But have fun and be creative with your visual!

Your topic needs to be centered around whichever proficiency trait you want to improve. If you need to raise your CE score then continually return the content to cause and effect, etc. Make it **CLEAR** that you are making connections for cause and effect and use multiple examples.

Possible speech topics:

| | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Katrina | Tsunami/Earthquake in Japan | Tsunami in Indonesia | AIDS pandemic in US or abroad | Child marriages in middle east |
| End of Cold War | Tiananmen Square massacre | Fall of Berlin Wall | Drug use at Olympics | Munich Olympics |
| Watergate | Whitewater | Obama | Regan assassination attempt | Reagan |
| Malcolm X | Iraqi Wars | Darfur | Blackhawk Down (Battle of Mogadishu) | Death of Osama Bin Laden |
| Death of Saddam Hussein | Technological advancements | 9-11 | Pop culture 1980s | Pop Culture 1990s |
| Pop Culture 1970s | Clinton | Bush Jr. | Bush Sr. | Nixon |
| Carter | Ford | Chernobyl | Rwandan Genocide | Mandela |
| Polygamy in the US | Whitney Houston | Michael Jackson | Human Trafficking | Stasi Secret Police |
| Lunar Landing | Apollo 13 | KGB secret police | K-19 the widowmaker | Eichman/Mossad |
| Ring of Fire and Oregon's earthquake potential | Neo-Nazis in US | Mubarak Trial | Quaddafi | Bikini Island Testing |
| Arab Spring | Columbia Space Shuttle | Rise of school shootings | Argo | Iran Hostage Crisis |
| Rise of China | Superstorm Sandy | | | |