

TRIBUTE SPEECH OUTLINE

This is not a simple biography, but a speech that will generate a deep sense of admiration and respect for your subject. Magnify the positive qualities of the person or group. These are qualities such as: excellence in performance, unusual accomplishments, overcoming obstacles, service to the community or the world, or sacrifices made for others. Include your personal admiration for this person and (s)he means to you. Repeat the name several times so that the audience will remember it. Use a person's first name only when proper. Here is a basic general outline for a tribute speech (either about a person or group of people). Adapt or modify it to best fit your subject. Don't feel like you have to include every section or answer every question. Pick & choose the ideas that would work best for you!

1. First, start with identifying the subject.

- Explain major facts or background information.
- Is the person, group, institution, or place historical or contemporary? Living or dead?
- Is the subject well known or famous? Because of what?
- If the subject is not well known, highlight how an everyday person became a hero or role model. Is
- the subject someone you love or respect? Formulate one simple sentence to express why.
- How does the subject make you feel? Why?

2. Unify your listeners by sharing common feelings. Is your tribute speech honoring, is it personal, is it sharing the feelings of the listeners?

- Explain how your tribute speech subject deserves recognition.
- Adapt everything you want to say to the style of the occasion and the mood of the listeners.

3. What is the occasion for your speech? A ceremony, party, or just a speech for class? You will need to handle the speech differently depending on who is in the audience.

- What does your audience think of your subject?
- Why should your listeners honor the subject?
- How does the subject make you feel? Why?

4. Briefly describe the conditions the subject was expected to meet and the qualities that made him/her worthy of honor.

- What are the criteria? Why?
- How does your subject meet these criteria?
- What makes the subject different? Turn with the correct words!