

Valedictorian Speech Rubric

	Truly superior	Excellent	Acceptable	Needs work	Inadequate
Introduction	Sparks interest for the listener. A clear indication of the major ideas of the speech are included	Creates interest for the listener. Mostly gives an indication of major ideas of the speech are included	Establishes some kind of viewpoint on the content – some indication of the major ideas of the speech were addressed	Merely announces the topic, little indication of the major ideas of the speech were addressed	Speech begins with no easily identifiable topic statement or indication of the overall direction of the speech
Organization	Flows seamlessly from Introduction to conclusion with an obvious logical progression of ideas and smooth transitions	Flows logically from introduction to conclusion with generally good transitions	Points flow logically from introduction to conclusion but transitions are awkward	Discernable pattern/direction of material	Wanders through the subject with little or no apparent direction
Content	Demonstrates superior comprehension of all relevant material; pushes beyond to consider deeper implications	Demonstrates full command of all relevant material; makes connections between different parts of material	Addresses all expected content in a manner that uses the material accurately but without great depth or with minor misunderstandings	Addresses most expected content, but with little development or accurate grasp of it	Fails to address most or all of expected content, or does so in a manner that indicates little or no command of it.
Style	Articulate, lively and interesting for the audience. Generally very engaging throughout	Articulate, clear and engaging to the audience	Reasonably clear and articulate, but may be difficult to follow at times	Clear and articulate in some areas, but limited by wordiness or disorganization in others, so that the overall effect is not engaging	So disorganized, wordy, or awkward as to make the speech a chore to listen to.
Public Speaking Skills	Excellent vocal inflection, volume, and pacing, no audible pauses, speech does not exceed time limits,	Good vocal inflection, pacing and volume, few audible pauses, speech does not exceed time limits	Adequate vocal inflection, pacing, and volume, some audible pauses, speech does not significantly exceed time limits	Acceptable vocal inflection, pacing, and volume, or many audible pauses, or speech exceeds time limits	Monotone or very quiet voice, many audible pauses, speech significantly exceeds time limit