

# Speech Evaluation Table

## **1.** *INTRODUCTION*

How does the speaker get the listener's attention—a joke, a story, a controversial statement, statistics?

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What tone does the speaker have at the beginning of the speech?

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Does the speaker state his position or main idea at the beginning of the speech?

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## **2.** *BODY*

**What support does the speaker present in each section of the speech?**

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**What does the supporting evidence suggest about the speaker's position?**

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**Does the speaker present any opposing ideas?**

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**What tone does the speaker use? Is it motivating and upbeat? Does he seem concerned?**

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**Does the speaker's tone change during the speech? If so, when and why?**

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**What allusions does the speaker make during the speech?**

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**What positions do the allusions support?**

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**What anecdotes does the speaker tell?**

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**What position do the anecdotes support?**

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### **3.** *CONCLUSION*

**Does the speaker state his position at the end of the speech?**

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**What is the speaker's tone at the end of the speech?**

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**What does the speaker hope listeners will do as a result of the speech?**

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# Speech Evaluation Table: Check Your Understanding

## 1. INTRODUCTION

**How does the speaker get the listener's attention—a joke, a story, a controversial statement, statistics?**

He gives his own family history.

**What tone does the speaker have at the beginning of the speech?**

He's proud and optimistic about the United States.

**Does the speaker state his position or main idea at the beginning of the speech?**

He states that he and the audience are there to affirm that the United States is great.

## 2. BODY

**What support does the speaker present in each section of the speech?**

- He describes what makes the United States great, including freedoms, equality, and tolerance.
- He talks about changes that would make the country better, including keeping jobs in the United States, better health care, and educational opportunities.
- He talks about Americans' willingness to work.
- He talks about John Kerry's experience and beliefs.
- He talks about our obligations to soldiers and to each other.
- He ties back to John Kerry.
- He talks about American unity. He talks about hope.

**What does the supporting evidence suggest about the speaker's position?**

- He talks about his humble beginnings to identify with the audience, but also to show how great the United States is.
- He says that his story would not be possible in any other country. The evidence he uses also supports his message of hope that the United States can continue to be a great country.

**Does the speaker present any opposing ideas?**

While stating the reasons why the United States is great, he also describes its problems.

**What tone does the speaker use? Is it motivating and upbeat? Does he seem concerned?**

He begins and ends very upbeat and hopeful.

**Does the speaker's tone change during the speech? If so, when and why?**

His tone changes a bit when he talks about some of the challenges we have.

**What allusions does the speaker make during the speech?**

He alludes to the Declaration of Independence by quoting from it. He reminds us of slave songs, immigrants, soldiers in Vietnam. He also alludes to the 2000 election results.

**What positions do the allusions support?**

The allusions support the position that the United States is great, and that there is reason for hope.

**What anecdotes does the speaker tell?**

He tells of people struggling in the United States. He tells a story of a soldier.

**What position do the anecdotes support?**

The stories give examples of some of the problems people in the United States face. The stories lead into how Kerry will help the nation.

## 3. CONCLUSION

**Does the speaker state his position at the end of the speech?**

"America, tonight if you feel the same energy that I do, if you feel the same urgency that I do, if you feel the same passion that I do, if you feel the same hopefulness that I do . . . then I have no doubt that the people will rise up in November, and John Kerry will be sworn in as president, and John Edwards will be sworn in as vice president, and this country will reclaim its promise, and out of this long political darkness a brighter day will come."

**What is the speaker's tone at the end of the speech?**

The tone is uplifting, hopeful, and excited.

**What does the speaker hope listeners will do as a result of the speech?**

He hopes they will support and vote for Kerry and Edwards.