

Rhetoric

Name

Date

Delivery

1. When adapting a speech, what elements should influence the speaker's decisions?
 1. material 2. Speaker 3. audience 4. occasion
2. What are some of the basic general principles of delivery?
 1. Good delivery helps the audience concentrate upon what is being said.
 2. Remember you are not speaking to perform- it is not about you but your message.
 3. Realize fully the content of your words- know which parts of the speech are pivotal and which are not.
 4. Cultivate a keen sense of communication- talk with the audience not at them.
 5. Be direct- look the audience in the eye.
 6. Punctuate and support your ideas with your gestures and voice.
 7. Promote conversational quality- should feel like a conversation.
3. What are the three minimum requirements for vocal performance in public speaking?
 1. be heard 2. Be understood clearly
 3. be free from annoying vocal habits
4. List and explain the different elements of "voice" during delivery of a speech.
 1. Articulation- It isn't enough to be loud: one must also be clearly heard and understood. Speak clearly.

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| 2. Volume- | Volume should fit the occasion. It is not only possible to speak too softly, but also too loud. The speaker should raise or lower the volume based on the actual occasion. |
| 3. Rate- | Neither too fast or too slow. Given the attention span of the modern audience, it is always better to error on the side of too fast; but you must never appear to be rushed. |
| 4. Pitch- | Monotone will never do!! You must raise and lower your pitch to give emphases to particular ideas. |
| 5. Quality- | The quality- or lack thereof- should never distract the audience from the message of the speech. |

5. Why might a speaker decide to read certain passages during a speech?

1. to bring something new and unusual to the fore
2. to give listeners meanings which they might not have gained if they had read the material on their own.

6. What should a speaker do before reading from a work during his speech?

1. Discover the complete meaning of the work- know the meaning not only of the passage chosen, but the whole work. Sometimes they are not the same thing.
2. Discover the unity of the selection- What is the general plan of the overall work.
3. Cultivate a sensitivity to rhythm- anyone can read poorly. Public speakers must be able to read well.
4. Cultivate imaginative capacities.- You must be able to see what most can't see.

5. Cultivate ability to group and pause.- You must know when to break or pause.
7. What three things should a speaker seek to master while delivering a speech?
 1. Cultivate the ability to subordinate ideas.- You must know how to organize your ideas so that the main ideas are clear.
 2. Cultivate ability to maintain visual directness.- Speaker who bury their noses in books or note cards will lose the attention of the audience.
 3. Cultivate the illusion of the first time.- No matter how many times you have given a speech or taught a class, you must have the energy and excitement necessary to make your audience believe it is the first time.

Judging

1. Why is frank criticism necessary in Rhetoric class?

Because both you and your peers will be able to improve if everyone gives each other constructive criticism.
2. What is criticism?

Criticism is judgment and/or appreciation. It involves evaluating, analysis and comparison, approval or disapproval, commendation or censure.
3. Why is it so difficult to effectively critique speeches?

Because the critical object (the speech) usually exists once and only once.
4. If a critic can't be present when a speech is given, what is the second best alternative?

A quality video of the speech.

5. Why is it preferable to be present at the actual speaking engagement?

1. It is impossible to gain a proper understanding of the atmosphere from a video.
2. The video might be deficient in a number of ways, including the angle of the shot, etc.
3. It is much harder to gain a proper understanding of the response of the crowd, if the critic isn't actually present at the event.

6. Why is it a mistake to judge speeches based solely on the short-range response?

Because some of the greatest speeches might not have been well received at the time they were given. The measure of success for a speaker is not if his speech was effective in the short term, but rather the long term. It does no good to gain the immediate approval of the crowd, only to lose their support the following morning after they have had time to reflect.

7. What are some of the most important steps to take while preparing to critique a speech?

1. Locate your critical criteria- What aspects of the speech will you be focusing on (gestures, content, voice, all of the above, etc.)
2. Adopt a constructive attitude.- Instead of just pointing out what the speaker has done wrong, give advice on how he might have done it better. Always start speech criticisms with the positive aspects of the speech.
3. Set clearly in your mind the three basic aspects to be examined in every speech: namely, effectiveness (was it effective), morality (was the message moral, was the speaker sincere), and artistry (did the speaker organize his material and deliver his speech well, etc.)

4. Make a judgment- A critic must be willing to judge. It is not the duty of the critic to sugar coat or water down his critique. While charity requires that we criticize prudently, it also requires that we honestly come to conclusions and make judgments.
 5. Be as specific as possible when making your judgment.- General comments might be easier to develop, but they are often not very helpful. Refer to specific portions of the speech when giving constructive criticism. Statements such as, “I just didn’t feel it had the right flavor” must be avoided.
8. What steps must one take when evaluating texts of speeches?
1. Ensure that the speech text you are judging is authentic.
 2. Inform yourself of the historical landscape of the period when the speech was given.
 3. Inform yourself of the immediate speech setting.- (was it given on a battlefield, was it a victory speech, was it raining, etc.)
 4. Inform yourself about the speaker.
 5. Read the criticism written by others.