

Your midterm will be in two parts. The first portion will be a written constructive speech. You will research a topic of your choosing for homework (go to www.idebate.org). You will bring the topic and research material to class, and we will start writing the essay portion early. You may bring an outline, research notes, a graphic organizer – anything except the essay itself. The second portion will be multiple choice/matching and will be administered on your designated exam day. You will have time to finish the essay portion on your designated exam day. If you don't choose a topic and bring research materials, you will have to trust that you like the topic I give you!

Logical fallacies

Fallacy
False premise
Hasty generalization
Circular reasoning
Playing with the numbers
Circumstantial evidence
Red herring
Mistaken causality
False analogy
Ad hominem

Speaking voice and presentation

Slow talker, fast talker, low talker
Introvert vs. extrovert
Raising and lowering your volume
Rate
Emphasis
Pitch
Articulation
Tone

Web site reliability and conducting a Web search

- Domain names
- Factors that make a site credible and reliable (sponsor, credible author, credible sponsor, current information, updated page, no flashy graphics, designed well, nonbiased institution)
- Advanced Google searches and features

The Art of Persuasion

- Rhetoric and rhetorical appeals – ethos, logos, pathos
- Parts of proof – claim, support, reasoning
- Support: Q-NAASE – questions, news, anecdotes, analogies, statistics, examples, etc.
- Constraints on effective listening: selective perception, denial, dismissal, polysemic effect, boomerang effect
- Effective speaking, strengthening commitment: consciousness raising, education to commitment, increasing the sense of urgency
- Weakening commitment: refutation and conversion
- Changing commitment: inducing a specific action

Middle school

Jan. 9 -- midterm review
Jan. 11 – start constructive speech
Jan. 18 – midterm – multiple choice and finish constructive speech

High school

Jan. 10 -- midterm review
Jan. 12 – start constructive speech
Jan. 19 – midterm – multiple choice and finish constructive speech

The Writing Portion

1. You have the class period before the midterm and most of the midterm period to write a constructive speech.
2. You will need to highlight information that you will use to support your side of the issue.
3. Highlight your thesis statement in your written speech.
4. You need to make an organized, well-focused persuasive speech that utilizes rhetorical appeals.
5. You may include personal experiences and background knowledge to support your claims.
6. You also need to have a clear introduction, body, and conclusion.

Writer highlighted information in articles relevant to his/her side of issue	None	0			2
Thesis statement is highlighted or underlined	No	0	Yes		2
Introduction is clear and grabs the audience	No intro	0	1	2	3
Introduction contains a clear thesis statement	No	0	1	2	3 4
Body contains logical claims	1	2	3		4
Claims supported with textual evidence from articles	2	3	4		5
Speech contains effective rhetorical appeals	2	3	4		5
Reasoning is reasonable, believable, credible	2	3	4	5	6
Conclusion is clear and leaves a lasting impression	No conc.	0	1	2	3 4
Speech is clear and concise	2	3	4		5
Speech is focused and organized	2	3	4	5	6
Speech contains few, if any, errors in mechanics	1	2	3		4

TOTAL: _____