

# Student Presentations

## **Week 1 & 13: It's All About You!**

Tell the class about yourself – things like how old are you? What do you like to do? What are some of your favorite foods? Do you play in a sport or play an instrument? Is there anything in particular you would like us to know about you?

**Focus** on giving us as the listeners an introduction and a conclusion.

## **Week 2 & 14: Favorites**

Choose one of the following:

- a) My favorite Bible verse
- b) My favorite books
- c) My favorite toy
- d) My favorite movie or television show
- e) My favorite Bible character

**Focus** on making good eye contact. Look up from your paper a few times while you are speaking. Look your listeners in the eye. This is like a conversation only you get to do ALL the talking and you are standing up! Definitely don't look at the floor. If you choose to do your favorite book or toy, feel free to bring it to show the class AFTER you give your oral presentation. You can bring in drawings or any visual aides that would enhance your presentation. Remember – you only have 3 minutes!

## **Week 3 & 15: History**

Choose one of the following:

- a) Tell me about a Greek or Roman god?
- b) Pick a timeline card and tell us more information about that subject.
- c) What is your favorite event in history?
- d) Tell us about your history. Where were you born? When? Who are your grandparents? From what country or region is your family? Etc.

**Focus** on controlling your body. Do you swing your hips back and forth? Do you fidget? Do you hold your notes in front of your face? Try to be aware of these things and stop doing them – they distract your listener from hearing the important things you have to say!

## **Week 4 & 16: Geography**

Choose one of the following:

- a) Tell us about one of the locations we have studied in weeks 1-3 or 13-15.
- b) Tell us about the town where you live (Columbia, Ellicott City, Laurel, Baltimore, etc.) Find out about some local landmarks in your community.
- c) Pretend you are on an adventure – you can go anywhere in the world you want. Where do you want to go? What would you do when you got there? This place can be real or make believe. Draw a picture of this place.

- d) Bring in a souvenir from a place you have been and tell us about the place where you received it.
- e) Tell us about one of your vacations.

**Focus on pace.** When we get nervous sometimes we tend to speak too fast. Work on slowing down and clearly stating the information.

### **Week 5 & 17: Family Traditions**

Tell the class about the things that you do to celebrate one of the following:

- a) Birthdays
- b) Thanksgiving
- c) Christmas
- d) New Year's Day
- e) Family Time

**Focus on speaking loud** enough for everyone to hear you and using good expression. Make sure you speak clearly. Don't forget all the things we have been working on in the previous weeks (introduction of self and topic, good conclusion, eye contact, posture, pacing, etc.)

### **Week 6 & 18 The Best Things in Life**

Choose one of the following:

- a) Your best friend
- b) The best time you ever had
- c) Your best subject in school
- d) The best things about Classical Conversations
- e) The best joke you ever heard

**Focus on timing.** Try to get as close to three minutes as you can. Don't forget your good introduction of self & topic, good conclusion, eye contact, posture, pacing, etc.

### **Week 7 & 19: You're the Teacher**

Tell us more about:

- a) any timeline cards
- b) a science question
- c) a history sentence
- d) your favorite science experiment
- e) your favorite drawing exercise

**Focus on knowing your material** really well. Practice your presentation for your family or friends. Remember to keep your presentation to three minutes. See if you can do your presentation without your note cards. Continue to work on all you have learned so far.

### **Week 8 & 20: Topic Time**

Tell us something about:

- a) The tin whistle

- b) Your favorite sport
- c) A valuable lesson you have learned
- d) A story that you have made up
- e) Your favorite animal

**Focus** on having a topic sentence. A topic sentence is a one that tells us the main idea of your presentation. Try to grab the audience's attention with your topic sentence. Make it good and interesting. Practice at home and work on doing your presentation without your note cards.

### **Week 9 & 21: Improve your Improv!**

This week we will draw a topic out of hat. Be prepared for the unexpected! Part of being a good presenter is being able to talk about anything on the spot – or improvise. Have fun and do your best.

**Focus** on feeling confident – you have been doing this for many weeks now and you have learned lots of new skills. Remember to use them this week and show us what you've got!

### **Week 10 & 22: Demo Day**

Teach us:

- a) how to play a game
- b) how to make something
- c) how to play an instrument (can be the tin whistle)
- d) a song
- e) a poem

**Focus** on using a visual aid during your presentation. Bring in the game, or instrument or words to the song printed on paper. You will need to focus on the most important points to stay within your three minutes. Practice what you will say and how you will demonstrate during your presentation.

### **Week 11 & 23: Make Me!!**

Try to persuade us to your way of thinking.

- a) Think about a gift that you would really like to have for Christmas or your birthday and try to persuade us to buy it for you. Why do you want this gift? Is it educational? Where can it be found and how much does it cost? Why is it important to you? How would it benefit *us* to buy it for you?
- b) Make a commercial. Tell us about something you enjoy using and how it makes your life better or easier or more fun. Tell us why it would be good for us to use it also.
- c) Pretend you are running for public office, such as mayor, governor or the President. Convince us to vote for you. What have you done to make you qualified for the position? What would you do for our community? What positive changes would you make? What would you not allow or make against

the law?

d) Convince us to adopt a pet from the pound. Why do pets need a home? How would our lives improve if we had a pet? How would the pet's life improve?

e) Tell us about an organization to which you think we should contribute or give volunteer hours. Who does this organization help? Why would we benefit from helping? Convince us it is a worthy organization.

**Focus** on persuading us without your notes. Be confident in your presentation. Knowing your material well makes it easier to convince us that we should do what you want us to do. Be as creative as you like – you may make posters, bring pictures, or products. Just remember you want to keep our attention and get us excited about your topic.

### **Week 12 & 24: Anything Goes!**

Choose one of the following:

- a) What does Christmas or another special holiday mean to you?
- b) What have you enjoyed most about Classical Conversations?
- c) What are you going to do for the holidays or summertime?
- d) For what are you thankful?
- e) Pick any topic that you would like to share.

### **Vacation & Summer**

You are now equipped to speak in public with authority and confidence. Don't shy away from any opportunities to share your thoughts respectfully, concisely and enthusiastically.

These *are* the things you shall do: Speak each man the truth to his neighbor; Give judgment in your gates for truth, justice, and peace.

**Zechariah 8:16**