

Method refers to how a speech is organised and includes:

1. Beginning
2. Middle Development (arguments and examples)
3. Conclusion.

Beginning: There are three ways to begin a speech:

- Story – *must be relevant to the speech as a whole*
- Statement – *should be interesting and thought provoking*
- Question – *must be answered at some point in the speech*

A speaker should never start a speech by introducing themselves or their topic e.g. 'I'm Joe Bloggs and today I'm going to talk about ...'

Middle Development

The way the speech is developed will depend on the speaker's purpose and personality. This part of the speech should be linked to the introduction in a logical and interesting way. It should also contain ideas and examples that support the topic and purpose of the speech and are linked to each other. This is the part of the speech where the speaker 'gets key messages and arguments across to the audience'. Planning this section carefully is very important so that the speech sounds convincing and spontaneous.

Conclusion

This is the climax of the speech. The conclusion should be explicit and concise and linked in style and content to the introduction. It sums up the speech's subject and purpose. For the conclusion, speakers should again make the points of their speech clear. The three ways to end a speech are the same as the three ways to begin a speech. That is with a Story, Statement or Question.

What can you do to support your child at home?

- Teach your child the difference between a speech and a performance.
- Help your child select a topic based on his/her interests.
- Help your child make connections between themselves, others and the world in general.
- Assist with writing out the speech and using palm cards (especially for impromptu).
- Practice (but not too much).
- Support your child with the goals of the program.
- Help your child develop resilience and a growth mindset.
- Encourage your child to ask for feedback at all stages of the competition.