

Speaking and Listening Activities and Project Ideas

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Warm Ups, Assessments, etc:

Images; have students engage in a verbal response for a warm-up activity by showing an Image.

Poster/Gallery Session; instruct students to give a verbal response to the Instructor, the class, or in small groups answers to visual questions. Think of it as a walk through an Art Gallery, Cultural Exhibit, Science Museum, Presidential Library, Olympic/Sporting Event, or Music Museum.

Play Games; Kahoot is one example of a fun engaging assessment game to play with students.

YouTube Activities:

Videos or Start Your Own YouTube Channel; Students can create videos easily now on their phones. Think 'Instructional Video,' PSA, or how about starting a class Channel on YouTube.

Model Presentations on TV Shows or Scenes demonstrating Presentations; For example, I use Shark Tank... I flip the activity and give students a [Speaking and Listening Rubrics](#) and they rate the Entrepreneurs on their Speaking and Listening Skills.

Content Websites - TV Scenes or Movies; Students have ample resources on the internet to use for illustrating points of view, constructing arguments, etc... For example, Seinfeld & Economics; <http://yadayadayacon.com>

Show YouTube Videos of your content and ask for verbal analysis, responses or debates; News, Culture, Music, History, Sports, Science, Business, etc.

Show famous movie scenes of inspirational speeches to model, critique, and analyze; Braveheart, King's Speech, Friday Night Lights, Yoda...

<http://www.askmen.com/recess/recommended/the-30-greatest-movie-speeches-of-all-time/>

<http://www.empireonline.com/movies/features/best-movie-inspirational-speeches/>

<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/moviespeeches.htm>

<http://www.filmsite.org/bestspeeches.html>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/film/film-news/11447115/most-inspiring-movie-speeches.html>

40 inspirational Speeches in 2 minutes;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6wRkzCW5qI>

More famous inspirational speeches to model and analyze; Martin Luther King, Steve Jobs, etc.

<http://www.marieclaire.co.uk/blogs/544196/25-iconic-speeches-you-ll-want-to-watch-on-repeat.html>

<http://www.artofmanliness.com/2008/08/01/the-35-greatest-speeches-in-history/>

The Greatest Motivational Speeches in Sports History:

<http://www.complex.com/sports/2014/05/greatest-motivational-speeches-sports-history/>

Movie Sport Speeches: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z2PloBdHeow>

Watch Videos on YouTube on 'How To' Give Presentations: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5c1susCPAE>

Ted Talks; there is a library of Ted Talks for every content to show students and verbally discuss.
<http://www.ted.com/>

Speaking and Listening Activities and Projects:

Surveys and Interviews; students can administer a digital survey and 'make strategic use of GRAPHS in their presentation to enhance the results of the surveys... thus, the findings, and evidence, etc... to add interest. Students can also conduct a Panel, Field and Focus Group type Surveys by adding a video clip.

Debates; research and debate, contrast two points of views, cultures, songs, composers...

Fish Bowl Debates; The "fishbowl" is a teaching strategy that helps students practice being contributors and listeners in a discussion. Students ask questions, present opinions, and share information when they sit in the "fishbowl" circle, while students on the outside of the circle listen carefully to the ideas presented and pay attention to process. Then the roles reverse.

Film a Video; with so many students owning smart phones - film a commercial, news story broadcast, instructional video, exercise instructional video, Public Service Message, Sports Moments/Highlights, etc.

Podcast; allow students to create a Podcast simulating Sirius XM Channel.

Museum Tours; students conduct virtual tours;
Tours Found on YouTube;
300 sites on this page; <http://www.virtualfreesites.com/museums.museums.html>
<http://blog.learn2earn.org/5-virtual-field-trips-to-take-with-your-social-studies-class/>

Pop Culture, Culture or History; have students present, review, etc.;
Movies, Albums, Songs, Music Group Reviews.
Stores, Fashion Reviews.
Selling a Tour or Travel. Perhaps... Describing a Recipe or Restaurant.
Historical Event, Current Political Event or Current News Event.

Presentations and Alternative Presentations:

Use Sports Brackets for Elimination Rounds in Presentation;... let students peer edit, grade and practice.

Debates; fun time to do debates with elections season.

Simulated Business Deals; Shark Tank, Venture Capital, etc.

Mock Meetings; Town Hall Meeting/City Council Meeting Mock Sessions

Poetry Café or Toasts.

Socratic Seminar and Circle of Knowledge.

Ignite or Pecha Kucha Presentation; style of presentation where students have 5 minutes to speak about a topic and 20 slides. A specific genre of presentation where every 15 or 20 seconds, slides move along automatically.

Elevator Pitches; the name 'elevator pitch' comes from the idea that it should be possible to deliver a 'pitch' or idea in the time span of an elevator ride. This means 30 seconds to 2 minutes. It started with an accidental meeting with someone important in the elevator and in those few seconds the conversation needs to be interesting, bring value and will either continue after the evaluator ride and exchange in the swapping of business cards or a scheduled meeting or not.