

Speak out

1 Internet research: How to give a speech

a) Go to the site below and research how speeches should be prepared and delivered.



<http://www.wikihow.com/>

b) Make a list of the ten best tips.

c) In pairs, share this list with a partner and agree on one list of useful tips.



2 Writing: A comment on a speech

On 15 June 2005 Steve Jobs, the CEO of Apple Computers at the time, gave a remarkable commencement speech at Stanford University.

a) Watch the video of this speech on YouTube and take notes of words and expressions which are new to you.



[Commencement speech by Steve Jobs](#)

b) Study the transcript and divide the speech into sections. Write one short sentence about each section.



[Transcript of the commencement speech by Steve Jobs](#)

c) Study a report on this speech.



[Report on Steve Jobs' Commencement Speech](#)

d) Having studied the speech and having read a report about it, write a comment on this speech. In your comment, you should:

- describe the occasion and the atmosphere of the speech
- explain what the speech was about
- analyse the core message

e) Find more inspiring graduation speeches here.



[The personal excellence blog](#)

3 Speaking: A thank you speech

Imagine you have won a prize (for whatever achievement) and you have to give a thank you speech.

a) Study the following page and watch the video. Take notes of typical phrases.



[How to give a thank you speech](#)

b) Prepare such a speech yourself and deliver it in front of the class.

Focus on language: Speeches

1 Introduction: How to begin a speech

a) Watch the beginning of some of the videos and take down typical ideas.



[The personal excellence blog](#)

b) Make a list of phrases that you could also use in another context.

2 Typical phrases

a) Study the following speech on global warming and again highlight typical phrases and expressions.



[Example of a persuasive speech](#)

b) Find alternatives for the following phrases and sentences:

It is certain that	
to forecast	
What can we do about ... ?	
There is an obvious answer.	
similarly	
but	
at least	
you only need to	
finally	

3 Speaking: One-minute speeches

a) Go to the following site and study the topics presented there.



[Speech topics: Help, advice and ideas](#)

b) Choose one of the topics and prepare a speech of not more than one minute.

c) Use phrases from the previous exercise.

d) In pairs, rehearse your speech with a partner.

e) Deliver your speech in front of the class.

Key

2 Typical phrases

It is certain that ...	<i>There is little doubt that ...</i>
to forecast	<i>to project</i>
What can we do about ... ?	<i>How can we as individuals do our part to ... ?</i>
There is an obvious answer.	<i>The answer is simpler than you may think.</i>
similarly	<i>on the same point</i>
but	<i>and yet</i>
at least	<i>after all</i>
you only need to	<i>all you need to do is</i>
finally	<i>after all</i>