

Speech Rubric					
	Exemplary	Proficient	Competent	Beginning	Insufficient Evidence
Ideas	The Speech *presents a significant and compelling thesis on a contemporary issue. * is clearly developed and supported. *presents a convincing argument and adeptly uses a variety of rhetorical appeals.	The speech *presents a clear thesis on a contemporary issue *is sufficiently developed and supported *presents a plausible argument and effectively uses rhetorical appeals.	The speech *presents a thesis * is developed and supported *makes an argument with rhetorical appeals.	The speech *presents a thesis *is somewhat developed and weakly supported *attempts to make an argument, but it is not plausible and uses rhetorical appeals ineffectively.	The speech *presents a position that is difficult to distinguish *is insufficiently developed and supported *does not make an argument that is plausible and lacks rhetorical appeals.
Structure	The speech *sequences ideas to aptly reinforce an argument *presents an introduction that intrigues the audience while establishing the topic concludes with a clear and convincing call to action	The speech *sequences material to support the argument *presents an introduction that establishes the topic *concludes in a way that provides a finished feeling to the speech.	The speech *supports arguments with evidence *has an introduction *has a conclusion.	The speech *Attempts to sequence material with a weak connection to the argument *presents an introduction that weakly established the topic *concludes abruptly or no proposed action.	The speech *Organizes ideas in a way difficult to follow— jumps too rapidly between ideas *does little to introduce the topic *lacks a conclusion and fails to propose action.
Language Use	The speech *deliberately and effectively uses rhetorical devices for the intended purpose *uses varied syntax in a way that adds to the persuasive impact *demonstrates well placed inflection and gestures that create an engaging delivery style indicative of advance preparation.	The speech *clearly attempts to use rhetorical devices for the intended purpose *varies syntax over the course of the speech *demonstrates some use of inflection and gestures that create an appropriate delivery style.	The speech *uses rhetorical skills to convince *varies voice for interest *uses gestures and speaks clearly.	The speech *attempts to use rhetorical devices but the result is ineffective *attempts to vary word choices but not much success *demonstrates limited gestures, voice variation.	The speech *does not use rhetorical devices *uses syntax that is largely repetitive and lacks variety *demonstrates minimal use of inflection and gestures.