

## Welcome to Speech!

This class is designed to help you improve your speaking abilities in both formal and informal settings. Informative and persuasive speeches, oral interpretations, demonstrations, improvisations, and radio news broadcasts are among the activities that will further your expressiveness and command of spoken English.

In order to prepare for this class, I encourage you to read over the summer! Reading any type of fiction or non-fiction will certainly help you; speakers who are well-read are able to incorporate more voices and perspectives into their speeches. In addition to reading any novels, I also encourage you to read speeches. Below, you will find a list of suggested reading that I have enjoyed and think would be helpful for next semester. Feel free to choose reading materials not on this list.

Throughout the semester we will work on improving your public speaking skills. As we work on creating a strong delivery of your speeches, it is also important to improve on a strong design of your speeches as well. Therefore, I anticipate having an informal discussion at the beginning of the year about what you read over the summer and the way that these famous words, phrases, and speeches have been designed in order to leave a strong impact on audiences. By the end of the semester, you'll be creating speeches that could even be published alongside these famous ones!

*Lend Me Your Ears: Great Speeches in History* by William Safire

*Great Speeches by American Women* by James Daley

*History's Greatest Speeches* by James Daley

*Great Speeches of the 20th Century* by Bob Blaisdell

I hope that you enjoy your summer reading, and I look forward to working with you in August.

Best Regards,  
Mr. Thomas