

## Understanding Dance (fall 2009) – 5-6 Minute Informative Speech Assignment

An informative speech is designed to convey knowledge and understanding. Your goal is not to convince the audience of something, or to change listeners' attitudes, beliefs, or actions. You want to share your understanding of, and interest in, a subject. There are 3 criteria for effective informative speaking: (a) the information should be communicated accurately, (b) the information should be communicated clearly, and (c) the information should be made meaningful to the audience.

Your informative speech will be about an important person in the realm of dance; you will make your choice from the provided list. In 5 – 6 minutes you cannot say everything of importance about a person; you need to choose a specific aspect of the person's life that is not too broad. Narrow your purpose: What exactly do you want to inform your listeners about, regarding this person? What is important and compelling to you about this person? Focus on aspects of this person and her/his life that are most pertinent to important contributions to the development of dance. Trivial details about such things as love affairs, unless pertinent, are not the crux of this speech.

Do not assume that your audience knows anything about your topic. Explain ideas thoroughly and clearly. Imagine that your listeners are hearing about the topic for the first time. As your text states: "Never *overestimate* the knowledge of your audience; never *underestimate* the intelligence of your audience."

Get the audience interested. Avoid being too technical or abstract. Be concrete, with colorful description, comparisons and contrasts. Use personal illustrations.

Due date: \_\_\_\_\_ You will hand in a typed preparation outline/bibliography for your speech. Each day this assignment is late 1.0 will be deducted from your grade. Your paperwork includes:

❖ **Outline** (See Chapter 10 of your text; the speech titled "Panic Attacks" is an excellent example of what you are required to hand in.)

- |                    |                                |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| ○ Title of speech  | ○ Conclusions*                 |
| ○ Specific Purpose | ○ Transitions                  |
| ○ Central Idea     | ○ Citations within the outline |
| ○ Intro*           |                                |
| ○ Body*            |                                |

\*Use complete sentences for all main points and sub points.

❖ **Bibliography**

- Citations will be APA style.

You are required to make an appointment and meet with me regarding your research.

You will receive feedback on your preparation outline/bibliography and you will hand in a corrected second draft the day of your speech. You will deliver your speech from your outline on note cards or paper.

Sources: You are required to choose sources from the 5 categories below. **You will not use Internet sources** for this research.

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>New York Times</i> or <i>The New Yorker</i>                            |                                      |
| 2. <i>International Encyclopedia of Dance</i>                                |                                      |
| 3. Video/DVD   |                                      |
| 4. Reference Books other than the <i>International Encyclopedia of Dance</i> |                                      |
| 5. Scholarly Journal or Magazine: (Numbers 4-7 are on the library shelves.)  |                                      |
| 1. <i>Dance Research Journal</i>   | 4. <i>Journal of Dance Education</i> |
| (Congress on Research in   | 5. <i>Contact Quarterly</i>          |
| Dance)   | 6. <i>Dance Magazine</i>             |
| 2. <i>Dance Scope</i>  | 7. <i>Dance Teacher</i>              |
| 3. <i>Dance Chronicle</i>  |                                      |

Do not quote or paraphrase anyone's ideas without an appropriate citation. Otherwise, you are plagiarizing. You will be assigned a date for your speech. For credit for this assignment, you are expected to give your speech when assigned. On the day of your speech, the following paperwork is due: (1) a final draft of your outline/bibliography, (2) your speaking document (depending on what is assigned, it may be an outline, note cards, or full text).

You are expected to apply all the feedback you have received previously on your delivery.

**Understanding Dance: Informative Speech Topics Fall 2009** Research these names in the textbook (pages 63-69, 93-105, & 137-142), online, and in the *International Encyclopedia of Dance* (in the reference section of Crumb Library). Submit, in writing, your top 5 choices in order of preference on \_\_\_\_\_

- |                             |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Agnes De Mille           | 33. Laura Dean          |
| 2. Alvin Ailey              | 34. Leonide Massine     |
| 3. Alwin Nikolais           | 35. Lester Horton       |
| 4. Anna Halprin             | 36. Lev Ivanov          |
| 5. Anna Pavlova             | 37. Loie Fuller         |
| 6. Anna Sokolow             | 38. Margot Fonteyn      |
| 7. Arthur Mitchell          | 39. Marie Taglioni      |
| 8. Asadata Dafora           | 40. Marius Petipa       |
| 9. Balthazar Beaujoyeulx    | 41. Mark Morris         |
| 10. Bill Bojangles Robinson | 42. Martha Graham       |
| 11. Bill T. Jones           | 43. Mary Wigman         |
| 12. Bob Fosse               | 44. Matthew Bourne      |
| 13. Bronislava Nijinska     | 45. Merce Cunningham    |
| 14. Busby Berkeley          | 46. Meredith Monk       |
| 15. Charles Weidman         | 47. Michel Fokine       |
| 16. David Gordon            | 48. Mikhail Baryshnikov |
| 17. Donald McKayle          | 49. Paul Taylor         |
| 18. Doris Humphrey          | 50. Pearl Primus        |
| 19. Erick Hawkins           | 51. Pierre Beauchamp    |
| 20. Fanny Elssler           | 52. Pina Bausch         |
| 21. Garth Fagan             | 53. Robert Ellis Dunn   |
| 22. George Balanchine       | 54. Rudolf (Von) Laban  |
| 23. Gus Giordano            | 55. Ruth St. Denis      |
| 24. Hanya Holm              | 56. Serge Diaghilev     |
| 25. Isadora Duncan          | 57. Simone Forti        |
| 26. Jack Cole               | 58. Steve Paxton        |
| 27. Jean Baptiste Lully     | 59. Ted Shawn           |
| 28. Jean Georges Noverre    | 60. Trisha Brown        |
| 29. Jerome Robbins          | 61. Twyla Tharp         |
| 30. John Durang             | 62. Vaslav Nijinsky     |
| 31. José Limón              | 63. William Henry Lane  |
| 32. Katherine Dunham        | 64. Yvonne Rainer       |