

ABSTRACT WORD SPEECH: A speech given with a partner

1. Your speech will be researched, developed and delivered with another classmate of your choosing.
2. You are to discuss and select an abstract word (a word of value). An abstract word could convey an idea of social, political, personal or philosophical relevance. An abstract word is intangible and often has a variety of meanings depending on one's frame of reference.

Examples: Democracy, Courage, Commitment, Happiness, blue, etc...

3. Build a speech that frames the idea behind the word by attaching concrete evidence and value that shapes the meaning.
4. Research the topic using 3 or more sources
5. Complete a presentation storyboard
6. Speech presentation should be 10 – 12 minutes in length and presented in and extemporaneous fashion with equal sharing of time between partners.
7. Complete ONE mini self evaluation TOGETHER and discussing your performance within four days after your speaking date.

“Plato believed that certain concepts could transform individuals and society. These concepts- which today we call values – exist as Ideas only. According to Plato, in the Word of Ideas are concepts which, if we truly understood them, would change our behavior, our laws, our nations, and our entire culture.”

Platonistic Theory of Definition: “ Thus to define a value, one must search for a definition that expresses the Idea of the Value – the Idea of which all earthly manifestations are but imperfect imitations; the definition, moreover, must be one that if it were completely understood and followed would create a better life; it must be transforming. One must attempt, moreover, to define a concept so that the definition will apply always and everywhere.”