

Communication Merit Badge

Assignments to Complete Before June 7th

Requirement #3: Write and deliver a five-minute speech.

Do some research on an informative topic that you are interested in. Avoid persuasive topics. In an informative speech, you educate using objective facts. You do not advocate for something, try to convince us that something is good/bad or right/wrong, or persuade us to change a behavior.

Informative speeches are generally about: people, places, nature/science, events, or ideas.

In your speech, you should have:

- An introduction
- Main point 1
- Main point 2
- Main point 3
- Conclusion

In each main point, cite (verbally, spoken aloud in your speech) at least one credible source: news article (from a credible online source), an interview with an expert, a book, etc.

Once you have written and practiced your speech, record yourself delivering the speech (using a webcam or built in camera on a laptop or smartphone) and upload it to YouTube, as an UNLISTED video (this is important for privacy reasons, and share the link, via email, with Rich Jones (class leader at rgjones@eiu.edu) and Jay Grabiec (event organizer and Scout Leader at jjgrabiec@eiu.edu). You can use an existing YouTube account or create one for this assignment.

Requirement #4: Interview someone you know fairly well, like, or respect because of his or her position, talent, career, or life experiences. Listen actively to learn as much as you can about the person. Then prepare and deliver an introduction of the person as though this person were to be a guest speaker, and include reasons why the audience would want to hear this person speak.

The guidelines are pretty self-explanatory, but here are some other requirements.

You will want to take notes during the interview so you can include key information in your speech.

This speech should be 2-3 minutes long.

Once you have written and practiced your speech, record yourself delivering the speech (using a webcam or built in camera on a laptop or smartphone) and upload it to YouTube, as an UNLISTED video (this is important for privacy reasons, and share the link, via email, with Rich Jones (class leader at rgjones@eiu.edu) and Jay Grabiec (event organizer and Scout Leader at jjgrabiec@eiu.edu). You can use the same YouTube account you used for the previous assignment.

Requirement #7: Use desktop publishing to produce a newsletter, brochure, flier, or other material for your scout troop, class at school, or other group. Include at least one article and one photograph (image).

The easiest way to do this would be to create a one-page newsletter using PowerPoint or Word. If you have more advanced experience with design, you can use InDesign or something more advanced.

On the one-page newsletter, you should include:

- A title
- The day, month, and year
- Some kind of border/design (not just a blank page)
- At least one article: you can summarize recent events or projects in your troop/class/group, or preview upcoming events, or include an informational article about a current issue relevant to the group.
- At least one image: you can use Google Images for this or use actual images from your group (such as a troop event).

Make sure you don't have empty/white/dead space. Generate enough content to fill up the page.

Once you are done with your design, email it as an attachment to Rich Jones (class leader at rgjones@eiu.edu) and Jay Grabiec (event organizer and Scout Leader at jjgrabiec@eiu.edu).