## **Informational Paragraph and Speech/Presentation**

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### **Assignment:**

### Research an issue (an important topic or problem for debate or discussion) of interest to you in modern-day China and share your knowledge with your peers in a concise 2-3 minute informative speech.

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**Points:**

### This is a major assignment worth 80 points (60 points written speech, 20 points oral presentation).

**Process:**

When creating your speech, please follow the process below.

**1. Topic** – Clearly state the topic you are researching (Ex.: Gay Rights in China).

Find a current topic that satisfies these questions:

My topic is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ask yourself the following questions:

* Is it a real issue, with genuine significance? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Are you personally interested in this issue? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is the issue narrow enough to be manageable? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Develop a List of Questions** – Add depth to your issue by asking probing questions (minimum of 5+ questions).

**3. Preliminary Research/Starting the Annotated Bibliography** – Look for answers to your questions. Compile at least three articles reflecting multiple views on the issue which expand your understanding as to the depth and complexity of the topic.

**4. Isolate the Issue/Building a Knowledge Base** – Narrow your topic to a specific issue – clearly state the issue that needs attention. (Ex.: Gender equity in China)

My narrowed topic is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Essential Question** – What question will your speech try to answer? Develop a single question that investigates your new, more specific issue. (For example: how does China’s government’s position on homosexuality infringe upon the human rights of its citizens?)

My single question is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**6. Further Research** – Now that you have your focused, essential question, go back to searching for the best four credible sources, reflecting multiple perspectives, to expand your understanding.

**7. Annotated Bibliography** – Create an Annotated Bibliography in MLA format. Your annotations should note the important features of each article and how you used the article.

**8. Write your Informative Speech** – Outline your speech (scroll down to the bottom of this doc). Then, use your outline to write a short, informative speech (approximately 300 words) in which you synthesize multiple sources about your subject in order to inform your audience.

Assert a clear thesis that organizes your complex ideas. Use specific evidence from at least three sources to clearly, accurately, concisely and logically help your audience of your peers follow your line of reasoning and communicate the significance of the issue. Be sure to credit your sources in your speech when you reference their work or incorporate it as evidence.

Remember, your goal is to inform your listeners of an important issue in China without taking a position. Provide a concluding statement that articulates the implications or the significance of the topic. Your speech should genuinely teach your audience about your topic, but should not include your opinion on the topic.

Be sure to create a strong title.

This speech should be about 1 page, double spaced. Be concise. Every word matters. See the models provided.

While there are many ways to organize a speech, we recommend you follow this format:

*Introduction (about 2 sentences):*

* Hook your readers with a general introduction to your topic & focused issue.
* Tell us the scope and significance of the issue you will be teaching us about!

*The Extent /Reason to Listen (1-2 sentences):*

* Reveal your knowledge of the history/general background surrounding your issue as well as why your listeners should be interested in this topic. Assert why this is a significant topic (may have already done so in introduction).

*Main Point 1 (about 2-3 sentences):*

* Give clear statement of first point.
* Provide supporting evidence (possibly paraphrased).
* Include citation of evidence & explanation/commentary

Transition to next point…..

*Main Point 2 (about 2-3 sentences):*

* Give clear statement of second point.
* Provide supporting evidence (possibly paraphrased).
* Include citation of evidence & explanation/commentary

Transition to next point…

*Main Point 3 (about 2-3 sentences):*

* Give clear statement of third point.
* Provide supporting evidence (possibly paraphrased).
* Include citation of evidence & explanation/commentary

*Conclusion (1-2 sentences):*

* Reassert main idea that we should take-away from your speech. What is the main idea we should have learned about from this?

You may choose to organize your ideas into one larger paragraph or several smaller ones.

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### **Peer review:**

Rehearse – Practice your speech paying attention to delivery, including eye contact, volume and pronunciation. You may use note cards. Consider making strategic use of digital media to enhance your audience’s understanding of your findings and to add interest.

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### **Final Products:**

Final speech (oral and written). 80 points major: 60 points written, 20 points oral

Due the day after your speech:

* REFLECTION on the process (typed and printed hard copy due the day after you give your speech – please also put in your “shared with teacher” folder).

**View the rubric for this assignment** [here](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1w2Co5WRCADglUtf3mHcE_VHfC90jlNNTX-Wvmb8WEdM/edit).