

# STUDENT INFORMATION

## How to prepare for your Semi-Final

### Content

Make sure you deliver a positive message and that your facts and information are accurate. Use interesting vocabulary and rhetoric.

Think carefully about your topic and your audience. Is it something you feel comfortable to share in a School Assembly? If you have any questions regarding your chosen subject please check with your teacher.

Be clear about the purpose of your speech. Do you want to inspire, amuse or inform? What is your message?



### Delivery



Think about your vocal variety, pace of speaking and use of pauses. Consider your eye-contact, body language and deliver your speech in a way that reinforces its impact and message.

Practise so that you feel more comfortable with your delivery, structure and content.

Public speaking is about being yourself: it is not rap, poetry or spoken word. Be confident in yourself and in the delivery of your content.

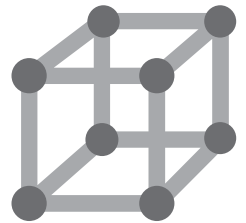
You may feel nervous. This is natural - take a deep breath, smile and speak from the heart.

No notes should be used.

### Structure

Help the audience follow your speech with a strong opening 'hook'; engaging stories and clear examples; a final message or challenge for the audience.

Try to use a story to illustrate your message. The audience will always remember people, places and events.



### Positive Impact

Offer solutions to any challenges or problems that you are highlighting - aim to leave your audience feeling inspired to make a change.

Tackle your subject with respect for the whole audience including those who you may disagree with.

## REMEMBER

**Stride**  
with confidence



**Stand**  
strong



**Smile**  
to engage



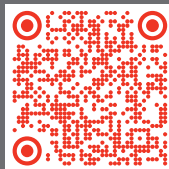
**Speak**  
with clarity



**Stay**  
for applause



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Speak and Be Heard

