

Lesson Plan for Monday Class (1 hour 15 minutes)

COMM 230: Introduction to Public Speaking

Instructor: Temilade Adeeko (tia5216@psu.edu)

Title of Lesson: **Speaking to Inform** (Introduction to Informative Speaking – Chapter 14)

Lesson Objectives:

- Understand the four types of informative speeches (objects, processes, events, and concepts).
- Learn and apply key guidelines for effective informative speaking.
- Develop an outline for an informative speech based on Chapter 14 content.

Announcement (5 minutes)

- **Reminder:**
 - Your **informative speech outline** is due **next week**, and the **Informative Speech** is starting in **two weeks**.
 - This outline should include your topic, specific purpose statement, central idea, and a brief outline of your main points.
 - Use today's class to understand informative speaking to prepare your outline effectively.

Introduction

- **Engagement Activity (10 minutes)**

Objective: Introduce the concept of informative speaking through reflection and discussion.

- **Prompt:** Ask students, “What’s a memorable presentation or speech they have experienced, and what made it effective or engaging?”
- Share and discuss responses, linking them to the key purpose of informative speaking: to educate and create understanding.

Types of Informative Speeches (15 minutes)

- **Objective:** Explore the four types of informative speeches.
- **Types of Informative Speech:**
 - **Objects:** Focus on visible, tangible subjects (e.g., Mars Rover, Grand Canyon).
 - **Processes:** Explain how something works or is done (e.g., how hurricanes form).
 - **Events:** Recount or analyze significant occurrences (e.g., the Battle of Little Bighorn).
 - **Concepts:** Delve into abstract ideas (e.g., nonviolent resistance principles).
- **Examples:** Use examples from Chapter 14 and share relatable topics.
 - **Activity: Identifying Types of Informative Speeches (20 minutes)**

Objective: Apply understanding by categorizing examples of speeches.

- **Instructions:**
 - Provide students with a **pool of speech excerpts** (3-4 examples representing different types of informative speeches).
 - Think/ Pair/ Share Students work in pairs or small groups to identify:
 - The type of speech (object, process, event, or concept).
 - The central idea of the speech.
 - Groups present their answers to the class, explaining their reasoning.

Guidelines for Effective Informative Speaking (20 minutes)

- **Objective:** Teach key strategies for creating clear, engaging speeches.

- **Key Guidelines from Chapter 14:**
 - **Don't Overestimate the Audience's Knowledge:** Keep explanations simple (e.g., the Galveston hurricane example).
 - **Relate the Subject to the Audience:** Make it relevant and engaging (e.g., using personal stories).
 - **Avoid Being Too Technical:** Simplify jargon (e.g., cryonics example).
 - **Personalize Your Ideas:** Use stories and vivid descriptions (e.g., autism narrative).
- **Activity:**
 - Show an excerpt from the acupuncture sample speech (if possible) and discuss how it applies these guidelines.

Application: Drafting an Informative Speech Outline (20 minutes)

Objective: Begin practicing the process of outlining an informative speech.

- **Instructions:**
 - Students choose one type of informative speech they'd like to develop.
 - Draft an outline with the following elements:
 - Specific Purpose Statement.
 - Central Idea.
 - Main Points (2-3).
 - Volunteers can share their drafts for brief peer feedback.
- **Example Outline:**
 - **Specific Purpose:** To inform the audience about the history of the Paralympics.
 - **Central Idea:** The Paralympics have evolved significantly since their inception in 1948.
 - **Main Points:**
 - Origins of the Paralympics.
 - Key milestones in their history.
 - Their current global significance.
- **Wrap-Up and Homework (5 minutes)**
 - **Reflection Prompt:**
 - What did you find most useful today,
 - How will it help you with your outline?
 - What did you find the murkiest?
 - **Homework:** Finalize your specific purpose and central idea of your topic for the next class.

Materials/Readings:

- **Required Reading:** Chapter 14 Lucas, S. (2023). *The art of public speaking* (14th ed.). McGraw Hill.
- **Sample Outlines for Different Informative Speech**
- **Library Resources**
 - How to choose a topic <https://libraries.psu.edu/research/how/choose-topic-tutorial>
 - Get started with Research
 - <https://tutorials.libraries.psu.edu/getting-started/#/>

Instructor Reflection

- What in the lesson today worked and what was the murkiest
- How the the student answer the different questions and class participations
- Where the lesson Objectives meet