

TED Talks Presentation Project



English 11 AP/Renaissance
Buena High School

California Language Arts Standards for Grades 11-12

- **Listening and Speaking Standard 2.0** – Students deliver polished formal and extemporaneous presentations that combine traditional rhetorical strategies of narration, exposition, persuasion, and description. Student speaking demonstrates a command of standard American English and the organizational and delivery strategies outlined in Listening and Speaking Standard 1.0.
- **Listening and Speaking Standard 2.2** – Deliver oral reports on *historical investigations*:
 - a) Use exposition, narration, description, persuasion, or some combination of those to support the thesis.
 - b) Analyze several historical records of a single event, examining critical relationships between elements of the research topic.
 - c) Explain the perceived reason or reasons for the similarities and differences by using information derived from primary and secondary sources to support or enhance the presentation.
 - d) Include information on all relevant perspectives and consider the validity and reliability of sources.
- **Listening and Speaking Standard 2.2** – Deliver *multimedia presentations*:
 - a) Combine text, images, and sound by incorporating information from a wide range of media, including films, newspapers, magazines, CD-ROMs, online information, television, videos, and electronic media-generated images.
 - b) Select an appropriate medium for each element of the presentation.
 - c) Use the selected media skillfully, editing appropriately and monitoring for quality.
 - d) Test the audience's response and revise the presentation accordingly.

TED is a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less). TED began in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment and Design converged, and today covers almost all topics — from science to business to global issues — in more than 100 languages. Meanwhile, independently run TEDx events help share ideas in communities around the world. Indeed, TED's success is based on the extraordinary effect of bringing together 1,000s of the world's most remarkable people across many fields. The result? *Unexpected connections. Extraordinary insights. Powerful inspiration.*

This will be one of your final AP English projects for the school year, and it will provide you with an opportunity to share your knowledge and insight with your classmates. Each of you has unique subjects of particular interest that school rarely gives you the opportunity to investigate. This is your opportunity to undertake a study that interests YOU. Your project will be a reflection of your interests and strengths. There are few requirements for this project, but here they are:

- 1.) **Your project must involve research.** You are not just going to give a 8-10 minute presentation off the top of your head. I will expect to see outlines, drafts, and a final copy of your speech (and multimedia) before you present.
- 2.) **Your TED Talk should have an outreach or real life component to it.** That means you experiencing your topic firsthand: when you speak from a place of personal experience, you really know what you are talking about. For example, if your topic is “Prejudice” you could go to the Museum of Tolerance. If your topic is “Mentor-Mentee Relationships” you could serve as a tutor. If your topic is “Conservation,” go and participate in a beach cleanup or a watershed project.
- 3.) **Word of advice: select a mentor to help you in your study.** Choose someone 23 or older who is not a family member. You will need someone to talk to about this, someone who can give you constructive and unemotional feedback. Your teachers do not always have the expertise that might be needed.

The Spirit/purpose of TED: TED Talks are cross-disciplinary, focused on the power of ideas to change attitudes, lives, and (ultimately) the world.

The Format: TED Talks are short, carefully prepared talks, demonstrations and performances on a wide range of subjects to foster learning, inspiration and wonder -- and to provoke conversations that matter. (The typical TED presentations consist of an 18-minute talk by a single presenter. No talk should exceed 18 minutes. No panels. No break-out sessions. Usually: No podium.) *Your* talk, though, will be **8-10 minutes** in length.

You start by selecting a topic that has always interested or intrigued you: prejudice, parent-child relationships, heroism, survivors of war, surfing, graffiti – it's up to you (pending approval).

Step 1: Proposal (Due Monday, May 18th)

Each student must submit a typed, 1-2 page proposal that should include the following:

- The subject of your inquiry** (nature, science, relationships, Africa, self-image)
- Guiding question(s)** about this subject (e.g., Is it ethical and humane to refuse a terminally ill person the right to terminate their life? What is mankind's place in the natural world?)
- A rationale** for why you want to study this subject
- A summary** of what you know about this subject at this time
- A prediction** about what you think you will discover during your investigation
- A discussion** as to the importance of this subject (answering the "So what?" question)
- Possible sources** (websites, publications, people, organizations) you might consult to undertake your investigation

Step 2: Outline (Due Wednesday, May 20th)

Each student must submit a typed, one-page outline of his/her speech. This detailed outline must include:

- Your **main idea** and **thesis**
- All the **evidence** you have accumulated
- Your **original expectations** about the topic
- Your **findings**
- The **major message (theme!)** that you want your audience to take with them

Step 3: Written Speech and Multimedia (Due Tuesday, May 26th)

- You must submit a **written draft** of your speech (that will be presented in class). This is the speech that you are planning on giving as your TED Talk.
- You must also submit a copy of the **multimedia** (video, PPT, iMovie, etc.) that you intend to use. You will need to upload all of your files to your Google site.

Step 4: TED Talk Presentation (starts Tuesday, May 26th)

- Your presentation will be to your classmates in AP English. You will sign up for your presentation date this week.

Some key things to remember about your presentation:

- ✓ It should be approximately **8-10 minutes long** (anything too far under eight minutes or over ten minutes will be docked points)
- ✓ You will be graded on **content** as well as **the fashion in which you present it**
- ✓ 25% of the project grade will be based upon your **prop/multimedia** component
- ✓ **Gestures, tone and vocabulary** will also count toward your grade (as per CA standards)
- ✓ Make sure to **thoroughly prepare/practice** your presentation ahead of time
- ✓ The final presentation of your TED Talk will be worth **5% of your final class grade**
- ✓ Refer to the online **rubric** for a detailed description of how your TED Talk will be graded.