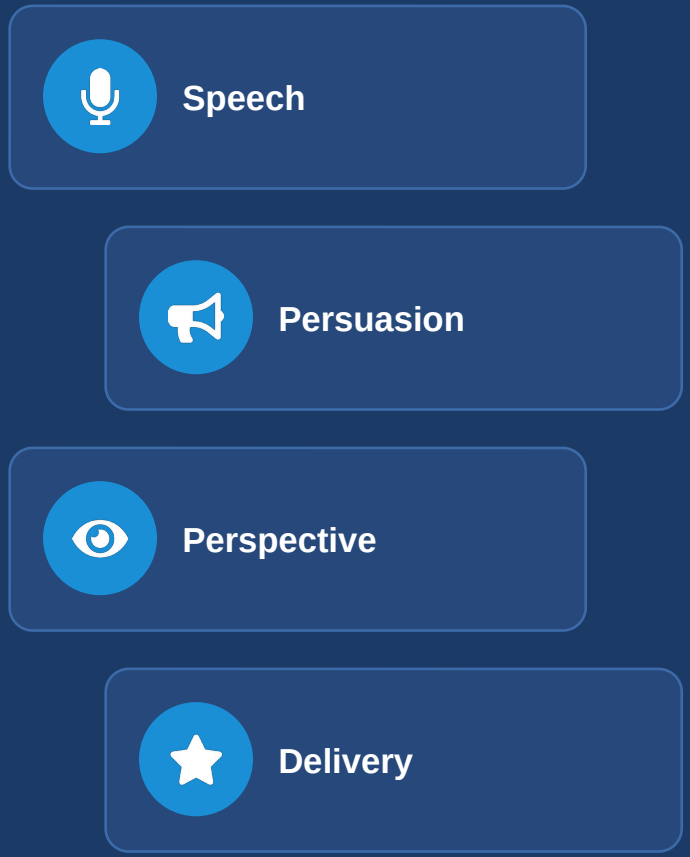
NBE3U Living Words, Lesson 9

Reading a Speech

How speakers move listeners, and whose view they bring



Today's goals



We are learning…

- To analyse how a speech communicates and persuades.
- To evaluate presentation strategies.



I can…

- Identify how a speech's structure, stories and language influence listeners.
- Identify the speaker's perspective and the questions it raises.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of presentation strategies.
- Suggest another strategy that would work.

Today's plan

Time	What we're doing	You will…
0–8 min	**Hook**	Discuss
8–18 min	**Tools**	Note
18–40 min	**Listen**	Analyse
40–55 min	**Perspective**	Discuss
55–75 min	**Evaluate**	Evaluate

Warm-up



Think of a speech or talk that stayed with you. What did the speaker do that made it land?

Sentence starters

“They started with…”

“Their voice…”

“I still remember…”

How it works

- Pairs: 3 minutes.

Big idea

Some of the most powerful contemporary oral texts are speeches: a young water protector at the United Nations, a judge who led the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. A speech persuades through structure, story, voice and presence, and every speech comes from a perspective.

How speeches move listeners



Structure

Opening, build, close.



Story

Anecdotes make issues human.



Voice

Pace, pause, emphasis.



Presence

Eye contact, stillness, gesture.

Language as a strategy



Some Indigenous speakers open in their own language before switching to English or French. A greeting, a name or a Nation's language can establish identity, relationship and authority before the argument begins.

Ask: How might an opening in an Indigenous language change how the audience listens to the rest?

The speech



Teacher-chosen speech

A First Nations, Métis or Inuit speaker (for example, Autumn Peltier at the UN, 2018, or an address by Murray Sinclair)

Official or trusted source; see the teacher notes

While you watch: Track the opening, stories, repeated phrases and the close on page 1. Note time stamps, not transcripts.

Speech analysis

On page 1, in pairs:

1. Purpose and audience.
2. How it opens and closes.
3. Stories, images and repeated phrases (check exact words).
4. The effect on listeners.

Whose view?



Whose perspective does this speech bring to its audience? What questions does it raise about values and power?

Sentence starters

“The speaker speaks from…”

“The audience is asked to…”

“The question about power is…”

How it works

- Groups: 5 minutes.
- Analyse the speech, not the person.

Perspective is not bias

perspective	The position a speaker speaks from: experience, community, values. *Every speech has one.*
bias	A slant that distorts or leaves out what matters. *Ask: is anything misrepresented?*
power	Who decides, who benefits, who is heard. *Many speeches ask the audience to share power.*

Evaluate the delivery

On page 2:

1. Rate each strategy from 1 to 4.
2. Give evidence for each rating.
3. Suggest one other strategy.
4. Explain why it would work for this audience.

A strong evaluation

Task: Evaluate one presentation strategy.

The speaker's pause after giving the number of years her community had waited for a new school was the most effective strategy. The silence let the audience feel the number instead of hearing it as a statistic, and she kept her eyes on the audience while it lasted. A single photo of the old school behind her would have added to the effect, because most of the audience had never seen it.

Why it works

- Names one strategy.
- Explains the effect.
- Uses evidence.
- Suggests an alternative.

Check yourself

Be honest. This helps you choose what to work on next.

Success criteria	Not yet	Almost	Got it
I can identify how a speech's structure, stories and language influence listeners.			
I can identify the speaker's perspective and the questions it raises.			
I can evaluate the effectiveness of presentation strategies.			
I can suggest another strategy that would work.			

Exit ticket

1. One strategy and its effect.

2. The speaker's perspective, in one sentence.

3. One strategy you'd add.

Next class: Listening to a Teaching.

Teacher reveal

Reading a speech: key points

Structure: How it opens (a greeting, a name, a story), builds and ends (a call to action, a return to the opening).

Story and image: Personal anecdotes and concrete images make big issues human.

Voice and presence: Pace, pauses, emphasis, eye contact, stillness, and speaking in an Indigenous language first can signal identity and authority.

Perspective: Who is speaking, from where, to whom; what values are assumed; what questions about power it raises (for example, who controls water, land or history).

Evaluation: Judge strategies against the purpose and audience; suggest an alternative, such as a visual, a statistic or a shorter call to action.