**Social Ritual Speeches**

* A special kind of informative speech that follows a set formula or pattern

**Types of Social Ritual Speeches**

Introductions Welcomes Award Presentations Acceptance Speeches

Nominations Announcements Stories Eulogies Toasts

*Introductions*

* + Goal is to give the audience information about the speaker you are introducing
  + Must create a positive attitude about the speaker
  + Include:
    - speaker’s name and title
    - something about their experience
    - describe why the listeners will find the speech interesting or valuable
  + Example:
    - Today we have with us one of the most outstanding doctors in our community, Dr. Jerry Wilson. Dr. Wilson has practiced medicine in Riverdale for fourteen years. He has a special interest in nutrition, and he volunteers at a drop-in center for teenagers. He is here to discuss with us the problem of starvation diets—a problem that is increasing among young people. It is with a great deal of pleasure that I present to you Dr. Jerry Wilson.

*Welcomes*

* + Goal is to make audience members feel comfortable and prepared for what is to follow
  + Include:
    - pleasure at seeing the listeners
    - briefly describe the event to come
  + Example:
    - Good evening and welcome to Lakeview Middle School’s Annual Music Review. It is wonderful to see so many friendly faces in the audience and my pleasure to welcome you all to the cafetorium. This year’s theme is, “Songs Across the States.” We have enjoyed preparing this show for you and hope you will have a wonderful evening. Sit back and enjoy the show!

*Award Presentations*

* + Goal is to honor someone who had done something special.
  + Include:
    - Describe the award
    - Tell why the winner deserves it
    - Name the winner
    - Hand out the award (shake with your right hand and present the award with your left)
    - Note: If the audience knows who is going to win the award, you may name them early in the speech. If they do not, then you name the person at the end of the speech.
  + Example:
    - It seems right that we should be presenting the award for Outstanding Speech Student of the Year today on the birthday of John F. Kennedy, one of the greatest speakers in our country’s history. Miss Panther presents this award every year to the student who had contributed the most to the class in terms of team spirit as well as success at public speaking. Our award this year goes to Eduardo Romero.

*Acceptance Speeches*

* + Goal is to expressing appreciation at receiving an award
  + Include:
    - Thank the person or organization who gave the award
    - Tell why the award is important to you
    - Express how you feel about receiving it
    - Thank anyone who helped you attain the award
    - Receive the award (trophy/certificate)
  + Example:
    - It is an honor to receive the Liberty Essay Award. I wish to thank the members of the Kiwanis Club and my English teacher, Mrs. Evelyn Klein. My grandfather came here as an immigrant from Hungary in 1943. I am pleased to have the chance to share his life story through this essay. Thank you.

*Nominations*

* + Goal is to support someone running for office and to convince the listeners to ote for this person.
  + Include:
    - Candidate’s name
    - The office they are running for
    - Describe the candidate’s qualifications for the office
    - Express your hope that the listeners will vote for this person
  + Example:
    - It is my pleasure to nominate Megan Murray for class treasurer. Megan has worked on the school athletic committee. She was in charge of the money for the Lakeview School Car Wash last spring. She is also a good math student. I know Megan Murray is honest and will be accurate in keeping accounts. I hope you will support Megan at election time on Tuesday.

*Announcements*

* + Goal is to give important information or direction to the audience
  + Include:
    - Who, what, where, when, why about the event
  + Example:
    - Hungry? Come to the Lakeview School Council bake sale on Saturday, February 16, from 9 am to noon in the Commons. We will use the money we raise for the Homecoming Dance.

*Stories*

* + Goal is to give the audience background on a occasion or to capture a funny, moving, or important moment from a larger experience.
  + Include:
    - Describe the background of the vent
    - Relate the main points in order
    - Create a clear and memorable ending
  + Example:
    - In 1954 this land was cornfields, but there was a vision in the eyes of Elinor and Asher Levinson that said this land could be a special place for families to come together for fun and for growth. This couple began a community campaign to build a recreational and education center that would house athletic events, theatre productions, and classes. By 1956 a gymnasium was built and the first basketball games were played. MY father was on that first team. Every few years a new wind was added to this building, which has become the heart of our community. Tonight we honor the Levinsons who have contributed to much to all of our lives. And I wish to add that in this gym, last week, I beat my father as basketball for the first time. Great things have happened in this gym!

*Eulogies*

* + Goal is to honor a person who has died
  + Include:
    1. Description of how the speaker knew the person who died
    2. Positive description of the person’s life
    3. Saying good bye to the deceased person
  + Example:
    1. Today we are celebrating not the death, but the life of a dear friend, a loving mother, caring sister, and wonderful grandmother. Elizabeth Gurney was my doting grandmother, a kind smiling woman that always greeted me with cookies, hugs, and warm words. She lived a long and colorful life, living in several states and spreading her love of crafts and pottery everywhere she went. Today, as we grieve together in the loss of her wonderful life, we should not cry tears of sorrow, but tears of joy that we got to share in her blessed life. Goodbye, Grandma Gurney, you will be missed.

*Toasts*

* Goal is to honor person or people being celebrated (typically for marriage, engagement, retirement, anniversaries)
* Include:
  + Description of how the speaker knows the person/people toasting
  + Explanation of why they deserve the toast
  + Positive description of the person/people
  + Congratulations on their accomplishment
  + Finish by asking all attending to raise their glasses
* Example:
  + Today we gather to celebrate the marriage of two wonderful people, Elizabeth Panther and Joe VanderWal. I can think of no greater honor than to be present as they exchange their vows, and I think I speak for everyone when I say that Elizabeth is the most beautiful bride I’ve ever seen. When my sister first brought Joe home, I knew he would one day become my brother-in-law. From the way they make each other laugh, to the way he cooks her dinner every night; I know theirs is a love that will last forever. Congratulations to Elizabeth and Joe. I ask everyone to raise their glasses in congratulations to the bride and groom!