

Write a Speech to Your Citizens

English Language Arts · Grades 5-12 · 50-70 minutes

This free lesson runs the full SFC Nations cycle: Learn » Explore » Create » Make Decisions » Apply. The academic content comes first, then the student uses it to run a nation of their own.

1. LEARN

The concept, stated plainly.

- Persuasive writing makes a claim, supports it with evidence, and answers the strongest objection to it.
- Audience shapes word choice. Citizens who are already angry need acknowledgement before argument.
- Three tools worth naming: credibility (why trust you), evidence (numbers and facts), and appeal (what people care about).
- A strong speech ends with a specific ask, not a summary.

2. EXPLORE

Poke at it before applying it.

1. Read one paragraph of a real leader's speech. Underline the claim. Circle the evidence.
2. Write the same claim twice: once for a supportive crowd, once for a hostile one.
3. List three objections a citizen of your nation could raise against your last decision.

3. CREATE

Make something that is yours.

1. Pick one real decision you made in your nation.
2. Draft a 250-400 word speech: open by naming the problem, state your decision, give two pieces of evidence, answer one objection, close with an ask.
3. Read it aloud once and cut every sentence you stumble over.

4. MAKE DECISIONS

No option is free. Choose anyway.

1. Do you admit the decision hurt some citizens, or focus only on the benefit? Choose, and be ready to defend the choice.
2. Your strongest evidence is a number citizens will find alarming. Include it or leave it out?
3. One paragraph is the most persuasive part but doubles the length. Keep or cut?

5. APPLY WHAT YOU LEARNED

Use it in your nation and measure the result.

1. Deliver the speech out loud to a parent, sibling, or class.
2. Have one listener state your claim back in their own words. If they get it wrong, revise that section.
3. Post a shortened version as an in-game address and note how it reads a week later.

Student worksheet

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What was your claim in one sentence?

2. Which two pieces of evidence did you use, and where did they come from?

3. What objection did you answer, and how?

4. What did reading it aloud make you change?

Parent and teacher notes

- Grade the reasoning, not the outcome. A defended bad decision beats a lucky one.
- Ask “what did that cost you?” after every choice the student makes.
- Let a nation fail once. The recovery week teaches more than the lesson did.

Want more? Explore the complete HOMESCHOOL NATIONS curriculum at sfcnations.com/homeschool
• Why this works: sfcnations.com/homeschool/why-sfc