

# Speech Writing & Delivery

## 1. Meter & Phrasing

### Repetition

“and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”- Abraham Lincoln: Gettysburg Address

### Parallel Construction (Contrasting Words)

Present, Past or Future  
Day—Night

War—Peace  
Beginning—End

Mountain—Valley  
Dark— Light

“This is not the **end**, nay, not even the beginning of the end, but it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning.” -Winston Churchill

“there is no problem we cannot solve, there is no destiny that we cannot fulfill.”-Barack Obama

### Emphasis on a Consonance (repeating letters)

“But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here..”

Who said this in 1863? \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Pausing** 1. Anticipation → Attention 2. Take a Breath, Gather your Thoughts  
Pausing = Verbal Punctuation Write your Speech how you would Say it

## 3. Metaphor and Imagery

*Yet however immense the Body of Islam may be, it is gagged by a stench ruminating from the West. Gluttonous hands clutch at its throat, suffocating this glorious organism. It has been stabbed in the back, by a blade soaked in toxin. The pure, red blood that flows through its veins is slowly turned black by the hatred and deceit that is cultivated in the gardens of America.*

Brenna Burlingame as Osama Bin Laden, 2010

## 4. Connecting with your Audience - Cultural and historical context

Introduce yourself, name individuals, relate to them

## 5. Reference History

*In a sense we've come to our nation's capital to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir. This note was a promise that all men - yes, black men as well as white men - would be guaranteed the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.*

**Who said these words, when, to whom?**

## 6. Telling Stories

making it personal, bringing in others, the human connection (Regan)

## 7. Write it out as you will speak it

Yesterday

December 7th 1941

A date which will live in infamy

The United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by the naval and air forces of the empire of Japan.

Yesterday, the Japanese government also launched an attack against Malaya.

Last night, Japanese forces attacked Hong Kong.

Last night, Japanese forces attacked Guam.

Last night, Japanese forces attacked the Philippine Islands.

Last night, the Japanese attacked Wake Island.

And this morning, the Japanese attacked Midway Island.

**Who said these words, when, to whom?**

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**What techniques?**

*If there is anyone out there who still doubts that America is a place where all things are possible; who still wonders if the dream of our founders is alive in our time; who still questions the power of our democracy, tonight is your answer.*

*It's the answer spoken by young and old, rich and poor, Democrat and Republican, black, white, Latino, Asian, Native American, gay, straight, disabled and not disabled - Americans who sent a message to the world that we have never been a collection of Red States and Blue States: we are, and always will be, the United States of America.*

**Who said these words, when, to whom?**