

Congress Speech:Outline/Checklist

- **Intro:**
 - No longer than 25 seconds
 - **AGD:** Attention getter:
 - **Link:** Narrows down your attention getter to your justification (think of it as an English essay- narrowing down towards your thesis)
 - **Justification:** Explains why I'm listening to your speech/why it's important
- *Transition: "The first reason to..." (focuses on the title of the bill, your stance, or the action of the legislation)
- **First point:**
 - **Claim:** General argument you're making
 - **Warrant:**
 - Why your claim is true
 - Introduce using the rhetoric "this is true because" or "this is because"
 - **Data (evidence):**
 - Legitimate cite (no blogs or personal anecdotes)
 - Evidence that you've summarized (put in your own words) and explained in a conversational manner
 - **Impacts:**
 - Explains what your argument means/ who it affects
 - Unique impacts (can stand alone) and linking impacts (follow ups to linking impacts)
 - You don't just leave impacts open ended- you explain what the real implication is
 - Usually where your linking is- make sure you explain why this argument supports your advocacy/stance (what side you're on)
 - **Refutation:**
 - Doesn't matter where it is, as long as you have it
 - You list off the person's name you're refuting
 - You've explained (briefly!) what there argument(s) was
 - You give reasoning as to why their argument(s) are false
- *Transition: "The second reason to..."(focuses on the title of the bill, your stance, or the action of the legislation)
- **Second point: (same structure as the first)**
 - **Claim:** General argument you're making
 - **Warrant:**
 - Why your claim is true
 - Use the rhetoric "this is true because" or "this is because"
 - **Data (evidence):**
 - Legitimate cite (no blogs or personal anecdotes)
 - Evidence that you've summarized (put in your own words) and explained in a conversational manner
 - **Impacts:**
 - Explains what your argument means/ who it affects
 - Unique impacts (can stand alone) and linking impacts (follow ups to linking impacts)
 - You don't just leave impacts open ended- you explain what the real implication is
 - Usually where your linking is- make sure you explain why this argument supports your advocacy/stance (what side you're on)
 - Not the same as impacts in your first point! Need to be different
 - **Refutation:**
 - Doesn't matter where it is, as long as you have it
 - You list off the person's name you're refuting
 - You've explained (briefly!) what there argument(s) was
 - You give reasoning as to why their argument(s) are false
- **Conclusion:**
 - Treated like one last act of desperation!
 - Doesn't go over time (if after 3:05, just stop talking)