

Welcome to the Totally Unbelievable Speakers Club!

TUSC is a program designed to help young people develop their public speaking abilities. Once a cycle (Day 1), the class holds a formal TUSC meeting. All students in the class are involved and each one has an assigned role. The meeting is run completely by the students. While fine tuning their public speaking abilities, the students will also learn to be accountable and to listen to and encourage each other.

In order for the TUSC program to be a successful experience for you, you must be prepared for whatever job is assigned, no matter what aspect of the program you take part in.

Remember to:

1. Always speak in complete sentences.
2. Use your voice effectively.
3. Respect each other's right to speak.
4. Listen appreciatively.
5. Be well prepared; otherwise you let down your entire class as well as yourself.
6. Enjoy your task.

Each student in the class will get to do every role once. Every week, students move down the list to the next task, in rotation. If they miss a week due to illness or are not prepared, the following week they will still move down to the next task. Every student is expected to be prepared for T.U.S.C. Student participation in T.U.S.C. becomes their part of their "Listening and Speaking" mark on their report card.

Strategies for a Successful T.U.S.C. Presentation

Practice at home, standing while your family / friends sit -- it's more audience-like

Record yourself speaking, then listen for pauses or how often you say "like" or "um"

Write out what you plan on saying

Look at a spot on the back wall of the class -- sometimes you may be too nervous to look into the faces of your classmates, but it's important to look up from your page

Practice in front of a mirror

Be the audience you want to speak in front of -- encouraging others, smiling, clapping

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Each student in the class will get to do every role at least once. The following is a list of the roles we will be using.

1. Chairperson

The chairperson must:

- Get a copy of the TUSC agenda from the TUSC binder.
- Assign each student their role for the upcoming meeting on **DAY 2**.
- Fill in the blanks with the name of each presenter **BEFORE** the meeting begins.
- Keep the meeting running smoothly.
- Introduce each speaker.
- Thank each speaker and make a comment after each report.
- Tolerate no interruptions or noise.
- File the agenda in the correct section of the TUSC binder.

2. Secretary

The secretary must:

- Get a copy of the Secretary's Report from the TUSC binder and read it over ahead of time.
- Be prepared with a sharp pencil.
- Fill in all of the necessary information at the meeting.
- File the report in the TUSC binder at the end of the meeting.
- Read the report orally at the beginning of the next meeting.

3. Book Talk

The person in charge of the book talk must:

- Prepare an oral book report on a book that you read and enjoyed
- Introduce the book and tell the audience the title and author.
- Tell what genre the book is. (ex. mystery, fantasy, etc.)
- Give a few interesting details.

- Show the book and tell whether or not you recommend it.
- The book talk should be suspenseful and leave the audience hanging; then, they'll rush to read the book

4. Citizenship Award

The person in charge of the citizenship award must:

- Pay close attention to their classmates throughout the week.
- Watch for someone that stands out as doing good deeds or helping others. * The award should go to a deserving member of the class and should not be chosen based on only one's friends.
- Create a citizenship award, either by hand or on the computer, with that person's name on it and the reason you have decided to give it to them.
- Present the award at the meeting.

5. Commercial

The person in charge of a commercial must:

- Prepare a 'commercial break' to sell an item to the audience
- Be prepared with EVERYTHING needed.
- Keep the commercial brief and to the point.
- TIPS: Selling something...
- What is the product's name?
- What does the product do? Why is it useful?
- Why will the consumer be especially happy with this product?
- How is it different from (or better than) others like it?

6. Demonstration

The person in charge of the demonstration must:

- Show or demonstrate how to do something.
- The demonstration should flow from beginning to end and cannot last more than 5 minutes.
- Here are a few ideas to get your brain working:
- How to wrap a present
- How to tape a hockey stick
- How to make Kool-Aid
- How to take care of your teeth
- Be creative! Please do not repeat a topic from a previous week.

7. News Report

The news reporter must:

- Discuss 2-3 important events that are happening or have happened recently, either somewhere else in the world or here in Manitoba.
- Some resources you may wish to use for your report:
- Newspapers – they're full of news!
- TV news reports – they're on every day!
- Your parents – they're smart people that know a lot about news.

8. Jokes & Riddles

The comedian must:

- Prepare 5 TASTEFUL jokes and/or riddles to share with the class. (Write them down since 5 will be hard to memorize)
- Always pause between the joke and the punch line!
- The person in charge of jokes and riddles must choose jokes in the best of taste. At some time before the meeting be sure to check your jokes out with the teacher.

9. Dramatic Oral Reading

The person in charge of the reading must:

- Choose a short article or part of a book that is of interest
- Practice reading it out loud at home.
- State the name and author of the book before beginning.
- Read this portion of the book to the class.

10. Interesting Artifact

The person in charge of the interesting artifact must:

- Choose an interesting object to share with the class.
- It could be:
 - a special treasure
 - something unusual
 - from another country
 - very old
- When presenting the interesting artifact:
 - describe it
 - tell why it is important
 - tell at least one special thing about the artifact

11. Movie or TV Review

The movie or TV reviewer must:

- Choose a movie or TV show to review. Make sure that the movie you choose is appropriate for our school setting.
- Gives the title and genre of the movie or show and names any major stars
- Gives a short summary of the main conflict or characters. Do not give away the ending!!
- Recommendation? Rate it on a scale of 1-10.

12. Science Experiment

The scientist must:

- Find or make up a SAFE and SIMPLE science experiment.
- Please practice at home before sharing it with the class.
- Bring in all of the supplies needed (unless other arrangements have been made with the teacher).
- Clean up after the experiment.

13. Hangman

The hangman person must:

- Think of a movie, book, TV show, actor or actress or athlete.
- Prepare ahead of time a “hangman” on the board.
- Allow the class to solve the clue

14. Prepared Speech

The person in charge of the prepared speech must:

- Choose a topic that you know a lot about and feel the audience would enjoy. Use the outline to create a 3-4 minute speech.
- Be well prepared using the format below.

GREETING: Recognize the audience. Ex. Good morning class...

INTRODUCTION: Identify your topic.

BODY: Supporting details that build on your introduction.

CONCLUSION: A closing statement. Ex. "That has been my speech on ghosts. I hope you enjoyed it."

15. Zookeeper

The zookeeper must:

- Choose a favourite animal
- Tell about the natural habitat, diet, and predators of this animal
- Use a picture or visual aid

16. Sports Update

The sports reporter must:

- Identify an interesting sports story – talk about your favourite team, important games/ playoff scores/ championship titles, etc.
- Use the sports section of the newspaper, or the news on TV.
- Use your own words to tell the class about it (don't read from the newspaper)

17. Biographer

The biographer must:

- Choose a famous person to report on.
- Describe the background of the person
- Explain why they are famous now.

18. Words of the Week

The words of the week person must:

- Find five words that are not commonly used.
- Describe the meaning of the five words
- Tell why you chose those particular words
- Use the words chosen in a short story or sentence.

19. Weather Report

The weather report person must:

- Find the current weather conditions (you may use the class iPad)
- Give the forecast for the next five days (must be prepared ahead of time)
- Be sure to give information about: temperature (high and low - tell what those mean), wind, and amount of precipitation.

20. Vacation Destination/Memories

The travel agent must:

- Introduce to us a great place to visit.
- Use a map to locate your spot.
- Research interesting facts & fun things to do.
- It can be some place you have gone, or some place you would like to go.
- Pictures would be great, especially if it is somewhere you have visited/ lived.

21. Chef

The chef must:

- Share a favourite recipe with the class.
- Explain the ingredients and how to make it
- Include a sample if possible.
- Give a reason why they like this recipe or what they might do to change it or make it better

Oral Presentations

What does it mean to speak well in public?

Your ideas follow a logical format – don't ramble or jump from idea to idea

You speak clearly – don't mumble!

You speak loudly enough that the person at the back can hear you – but don't yell

You use expression – not one single tone

You speak at a medium pace – not too fast or too slow

You pause to emphasize a point or wait for applause

You choose appropriate words to explain yourself – not "um", "like" or "uh"

You display enthusiasm for topic in your facial expression

Your body language shows confidence – stand tall, don't lean against the wall

Active Listening

What does it mean to be an active listener?

You demonstrate attentiveness

Look at speaker

Think about and try to understand what the speaker is saying

Don't fidget or move around lots

Encourage the presenter with non-verbal cues such as nodding and smiling

Recall relevant information from presentation when asked

Provides positive feedback through encouragement and applause

Ask relevant questions if you want clarification