

**A POCKET
GUIDE TO
PUBLIC
SPEAKING
4TH EDITION**

Chapter 34

Arts and Humanities Courses

Arts and Humanities Presentations

- Presentations often require interpretation of
 - ▶ Ideas;
 - ▶ Events;
 - ▶ People;
 - ▶ Stories;
 - ▶ Artifacts.

Arts and Humanities Presentations

- May be performative in nature
- Rely on analysis/interpretation of topic
 - ▶ Grounded in conventions of the field
 - ▶ Built on research within it

Informative Talks of Description and Analysis

- Often focus on:
 - ▶ Relevance of historical/contemporary person/event
 - ▶ Genre or school of philosophical thought
 - ▶ Piece of literature, music, etc.
- Presentation aids are often key elements.

Presentations That Compare and Contrast

- Elements:
 - ▶ Thesis statement
 - ▶ Outlines connection between events, stories, etc.
 - ▶ Discussion of main points (with examples)
 - ▶ Concluding evaluative statement about the comparison

Debates

- Speaker presents brief assertion about topic
- Opposing speaker responds with position
- Should always prepare:
 - ▶ Well-composed argument
 - ▶ Strong supporting evidence

Preparing Effective Arts and Humanities Presentations

- Presentations should
 - ▶ Help the audience consider the topic in a new way;
 - ▶ Provide an original interpretation of the topic;
 - ▶ Offer different approaches to issues/arguments.
 - ▶ More original presentations are more compelling.