

BCMU Spring 2011 Take-home Midterm—Jack Whelan

Part II—Write Script for a Persuasive Talk

Goal: The pedagogical goal is to give you the opportunity to pull all the elements taught this quarter about persuasion into an effective, short persuasive talk. Use all the resources in the books, on the website, coursepak, and your class notes to help you create a script that will blow my doors off.

Task: Choose a topic below; write the script for short presentation that should take 5-7 minutes read out loud. Assume you are speaking to an audience with 21 people in it with about seven undecided, six or seven against, and seven sympathetic. Your goal is to get at least eleven positive votes or action responses.

Deliverable. Typed script in two parts: Part I invention/analysis, and Part II the script for the talk. Analysis/Invention should be separate from the script text.

Part I should clearly indicate the topic you are arguing, and it should have your name and class meeting time in the upper right hand corner. Please staple to Part II.

Part II should clearly state the “core idea” before you begin your text, so I know what your rhetorical objectives are. See rubric for model core idea. Text of talk should follow in full-block format.

Due: In class Thursday 5/12.

Here are the topics. Select one:

- Persuade the group to donate money to a charitable organization of your choice.
- Persuade a group and a community meeting to vote for a new tax that would help pay for a new stadium for a Seattle NBA franchise.
- Convince a group of elderly people that they need adopt a consistent exercise routine.
- Persuade citizen group at a town meeting that they need to support the building of a recreation center rather than a juvenile detention center as a way to reduce gang violence.
- Persuade a group of art (or science, or history) majors to take BCMU next quarter.
- If you have another topic you'd like to use instead of these, email me to get a green light to do it.