

TED PROJECT



Technology

Entertainment

Design

Abstract of Project

- Find an inspirational lecture on www.ted.com/talks with content related to your education.
- Use your ability to communicate to tell the class in an argumentative speech why the lecture you have chosen is the best one.
- Search for a scientific article based on the same topic as the lecture you chose.
- Write an informative essay based on that scientific article, called an abstract.

Introduction

TED Talks is a conference that began in the 1980s and is generally held in Long Beach, California, USA. Over the course of the decades this conference has grown in size and since the responsible organisation, Sapling Foundation, started to release the lectures online under the Creative Commons License in 2006 its popularity has exploded. Today, one can find over 1500 filmed lectures on their homepage: www.ted.com/talks, these lectures have been viewed over 1 billion times.

The greatest achievement of this organisation is perhaps its ability to combine fantastic speakers with intriguing ideas, making it both educational and entertaining. I hope this project will serve as a source of both knowledge and inspiration, perhaps leading to what is sometimes referred to as "having a thirst for knowledge". Good luck!

Part 1 – Find Your Favourite Lecture

The first part of this project is about finding your favourite lecture. It is easy, just go to www.ted.com/talks and browse through the clips. There are many to choose from, so feel free to use the sorting tool to find the clips that you find interesting and relevant for your education. The only demand is that you have found your clip by the second lesson of this project. You need to start working with it.

Part 2 – Preparing and Preforming an Argumentative Speech

There are many clips, but you have actually found the best one! Right? Here is the part where you tell the class why your clip was the best, perhaps for you or for everyone. This is done through an argumentative speech, a speech focused on persuasiveness. The argumentative speech follows the five-part structure of introduction, 3 arguments and a conclusion and should be between 5-10 minutes. Remember the Greek Triad!

Part 3 – Going Pro: Finding Your First Scientific Article

The main goal of this part of the assignment is to practise the skill of finding relevant information, assessing the quality of that information and understanding the information. There are many ways to find scientific articles. One such way is to use the internet. Even though the internet is vast, there are places where material is gathered, thoroughly evaluated and published for free. I will help you with a list of such sites.

One can also use the library. This is strongly recommended, and we will visit the library on a guided tour of the possible archives that they have access to. Librarians are highly educated experts of information and can be of great service, especially if you visit one of the university libraries.

Part 4 – Writing an Abstract

Retell what your scientific article is about by writing a summary of the information in it. This should be done through a five-part-informative essay, called an abstract. Organise the content of the article so that it fits in to three larger categories, then write the essay in your own words with the following structure: introduction, main part and a conclusion.

Remember: size 12. Spacing 1,5. At least 1000 words. Formal English. Do not forget to refer back to or quote the scientific article everytime you take relevant information from it.

Good Luck!