



## PERSUASIVE SPEAKING & DEBATING FOR BEGINNERS OF ANY AGE

### Expression & Delivery (also applies to acting)

#### #esufestivalofspeaking

Persuasive speakers and actors:

- are confident in what they have to say, and do not just read from their notes;
- speak clearly, slowly and loudly;
- are interesting to listen to because they vary the tone and volume of their voice and use pauses;
- use their whole body to support their points through gesture and the expression of their faces;
- chooses their words and the structure of their sentences carefully.

### Reasoning & Evidence

Persuasive speakers:

- justify their point of view by giving the audience several reasons;
- present their reasons simply and clearly in a way that people listening can easily understand;
- back up their reasons with evidence of different types, including facts, examples and comparisons;
- explain how the evidence supports their reasoning;
- show how their reasons are relevant and link back to their point of view.

### Organisation & Prioritisation

Persuasive speakers:

- choose the most important reasons to support their viewpoint;
- spend more time on the most important reasons, and less time on less important ones;
- can quickly summarise the main reasons to support their view;
- present their reasons in a clear well-structured order, with similar reasons grouped together;
- are easy to follow because they explain the structure of their speech.

#esufestivalofspeaking [www.esu.org/festivalofspeaking](http://www.esu.org/festivalofspeaking) E: festival@esu.org

# ESU SKILLS GUIDE



## Listening & Response

### Persuasive speakers:

- listen carefully to other people's points of view
- can ask challenging questions politely;
- respond to opposing points of view by showing why they disagree;
- work with people who share their point of view, by supporting what they have said;
- can identify the main disagreements between different speakers, and explain with whom the people listening should agree.

## Plan. Practise. Perform. Post!

#esufestivalofspeaking [www.esu.org/festivalofspeaking](http://www.esu.org/festivalofspeaking) E: festival@esu.org