**Group Presentation**

**COMMENCEMENT SPEECH**

1. Introduction
	1. Every year thousands of Americans participate and attend graduation ceremonies for pre-schoolers all the way to college students
	2. A commencement speech is a speech given to [graduating](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graduation) students that marks one stage of a person’s life to another
	3. Today we will describe and demonstrate a speech of a commencement ceremony…

Transition: First, we will describe what a commencement speech consists of…

1. Description

According to the Public Speaking Handbook, a commencement speaker must fulfill two important functions:

1. First the speaker should praise the graduating class
	1. The audience is filled with family members and friends of the graduates
	2. The main goal is to be audience-centered
	3. The speaker should gain their goodwill by explaining the importance of the graduates accomplishments
2. Next the speaker should turn the graduates towards the future
	* 1. The speaker suggests bright new goals and inspires them to reach for them

According to the Graduation Speech guidline.com, the graduating speech consists of 3 parts: Introduction, body, and conclusion

1. The Introduction
	1. In which he identifies his goal for the speech, or his IMPORTANT overarching concept that the speech will reinforce
2. The Body: which is broken down into three parts (the past, the present and the future)
	1. For the past, he lists recollections events or occasions, he identifies the personal traits used and built through this event, and the general learning’s.

He also considers the ACCOMPLISHMENTS of this group of graduates and the POINT to be made here that will summarize all that you would say in Point #1.

* + 1. For the present

He considers this moment (today/tonight), this point in time.

* + 1. Finally for the future

He considers the lessons learned at school

The lessons learned from the accomplishments / successes and failures – studies, sports, etc.

Such lessons "means we have the skills to learn, aptitude to succeed, abilities and creativity to make a difference, to work to meet the needs and assist in solving of the problems that face society.”

1. The Conclusion
	1. Summarize the three key points in the Past, Present, Future of the Body.
	2. Return to the Introduction. Restate his original statement or goal
2. Academic Regalia
	* 1. Cap and gown - the traditional form of clothing for academic setting
		2. Tassels - for college graduations, the tassels are first worn on the right, and then flipped to the left upon receiving the diploma
		3. Hoods and cords also come together to represent a special honor or achievement
		4. Tossing of graduation hats
			1. many students toss their graduation hats into the air when the ceremony is over simply to celebrate

Transition: Next, we will demonstrate a commencement speech…

1. Demonstration
	1. (Teacher) Welcome class mates to the graduation ceremony of SPC 1608. I would like to introduce the student Speaker (Tiffany)

1. Intro

* + 1. Today on 12/6/2011 in SPC 1608 class 2011, this will be a very important day in our lives. I would like to thank my fellow class mates, my professor and the creator of the public speaking handbook for helping us get here today
	1. Body
		1. Before August 2011 we dreaded giving speeches and even attending the first day of this class. When we stepped up to the podium we were unprepared for our first impromptu speech, where we wouldn’t look up at all trembling in our own fear.
		2. As the class progressed onto the speeches we recently gave, it became easier and easier to stand still and present our topics across clearly, which leads us to where we are today.
		3. After today we are prepared, prepared for the future, prepared to be a valedictorian of medical schools and law schools, we are prepared for the real world along with any obstacles it throws at us such as presentations.
	2. Conclusion
		1. So today on 12/6/2011 in SPC 1608 class 2011 will be a very important day in our lives, it will be a day we remember mastering speaking skills, a day where no stuttering, and no um’s and likes will take place. It is the future we have prepared for, Congratulations SPC class 2011 we have passed!
		2. (Teacher)Thank you for that spectacular speech will the students come up to receive their grades.

Transition: In summary…

1. Conclusion
	1. Today, we have described and demonstrated a speech of commencement ceremony, broke it down into certain parts and explained the importance of academic regalia
	2. (Memorable Statement) “There is a good reason they call these ceremonies 'commencement exercises'. Graduation is not the end, it's the beginning.”
	3. Throw caps!

**Reference Page**

1. Beebe, Steven A., and Susan J. Beebe. "Chapter 20.b Speaking Special Ocassions." Public Speaking Handbook. 3rd ed. Boston: Pearson, 2011. 443. Print.
2. Robin, Carle E. "How to Write a Graduation Speech: Memorable Commencement Speaking for High School & College Graduation | Suite101.com." Naomi Rockler-Gladen | Suite101.com. Fall 2011. Web. 28 Nov. 2011. <http://naomi-rockler-gladen.suite101.com/how-to-write-a-graduation-speech-a12154>.