

Activity 40

“End With a Bang!”

Goal: understand the importance of an emotional message in speeches

The teacher elaborates on the importance of the emotional message in a speech, especially in Closing Speeches of a Debate.

“The ending of a speech is the last opportunity – and a strong opportunity – to influence the audience. You can do this in an emotional way. In quotes, for example, there is often a special rhythm like there is in music. Such a rhythm sometimes goes sometimes directly into our memory or motivates us to act.

- Advertisements use often emotions. For example:
“Think different!”, “Let’s do it!”, “Think big!”
- Also quotations from world literature can be used to motivate people:
“Without hope we are lost“ (Mahmoud Darwish in an interview 2007),
“You have something in life, so stand for it!” (Ghassan Kanafani)
“To be or not to be this is the question” (Shakespeare, Hamlet)
- Common wisdom can act in a similar way: “No pain, no gain!”
- Slogans from politics also try to inspire with some pointed words: “Equal pay for equal work!”

Teacher asks the students: create a headline for a speech – send a strong message through the audience! Imagine your topic is:

“Should we spend more money on space research, yes or no?”

Students in three groups choose their position and make a headline for their position in very few words. They write their headline on a large piece of paper. They present it by holding it up.