

Have I Got a Story For You...

NCEA Level 1 Speaking Assessment

AS90857: Construct and deliver an oral text.

Version 2

3 Credits

Achievement	Achieved with Merit	Achieved with Excellence
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop and structure ideas in an oral text.• Use oral language features appropriate to audience and purpose.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop and structure ideas convincingly in an oral text.• Use oral language features appropriate to audience and purpose with control.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop and structure ideas effectively in an oral text.• Use oral language features appropriate to audience and purpose with control to command attention.

Context

Fitzgerald had a talent for taking events from his own life, creating a story about them and leaving the reader with a valuable lesson about themselves. His ability to do this using a vast range of language features was impressive.

We can learn a lot about how Fitzgerald felt about his life and the things he learnt along the way from his stories. Often, there is 'the golden girl' who the protagonist cannot resist, so they alter themselves only to be left broken-hearted by the end of the story. Sometimes, there is the hero who definitely tries to reclaim their past and relive their 'glory days', only to pay "a high price for living too long with a single dream" (*The Great Gatsby*). Whatever the storyline, there is always a message or warning about how we should live our lives.

For centuries, cultures have passed stories, legends and information through the generations in oral form. Maori have a long history of oral tradition. Their stories, songs and heritage have all been passed from generation to generation. Not only do they serve as a reminder about what has passed but they also contain messages about what you can learn from those who have gone before you.

Task

You must construct an oral presentation that **tells a story** from your life and experiences so far. That story should lead you to a **message about life** and how we live it. You should then aim to **convey why people should adopt or learn from your story and message**.

Preparation

- Draft a timeline of some of the most memorable experiences you have had so far in your life. Include details about who, what, where, when etc. Highlight the ones you feel had the most impact on you and how you view the world.
- Research oral storytelling and its traditions. Look into the common features of oral storytelling and note down devices and methods you will use in your speech.
- Consider Fitzgerald's style. Think about how you could use sound devices such as alliteration, assonance and rhyme as he does. Remember his ability to work allusion into his stories to create a realistic world.
- Select one of the unannotated speeches that is on our class blog. Watch it and select a 1 minute segment to annotate. While annotating, look for features you have identified as being common in oral storytelling, identify effective oral presentation techniques and also make comments on anything the speaker could do to improve.
- Choose your story and subsequent message. Ideally, this will be something you feel connected to and interested in.
- Collect relevant material that may help you write your script. This could be photos, videos or memorabilia from home. You may want to use material from the internet to help inspire you.

The Writing Process

- Begin by planning the general structure of your speech. Consider the 'hook' you will use to lure the audience in. Think about how you will move into your story and how you will segway from your story into the message you're presenting.
- Write a draft of your script. The final date you can ask for feedback on your draft is **Friday the 16th of August**.
- Once you have your first draft, revise and edit it. Ensure you have used a selection of oral storytelling features and some of the sound devices that Fitzgerald favours. See the preparation section above or our class blog for more guidance with this.
- When you are happy with your speech, transfer it onto cue cards. There is no limit to how much or how little of your speech you can have on your cue cards. It is important to note that a speech performed without cue cards will not receive a higher grade than one performed with them. You are **strongly advised** to have cue cards to aid your presentation.

The Final Piece

- Your speech should be a minimum of three minutes in duration. In order to deliver a speech which you can sustain at an appropriate level, you should not exceed five minutes.
- You must write your own speech. It must be presented live to the class in one session. You are encouraged to use cue cards and you can choose to display a visual presentation through the projector. When considering this, you should ask yourself “Does this enhance my speech?”. It should not simply ‘be there’ and should you chose to use a visual presentation you should engage with it during your speech.
- Your speech will be assessing your ability to use oral language features. These features will be both baked into the writing of the speech itself and heard in the and seen in the tone and nature of your delivery. Check out the exemplars of Level 1 speaking on the NCEA site to gain some insights into the requirements of this standard.

Advice

- You are encouraged to practice speaking in front of an audience as much as you can to help you feel more comfortable during your speech. In addition to the speaking tasks that we will do as a class, you should rehearse your speech to your friends and family.
- Seek feedback from your teacher during the early stages of your drafting to ensure you are on the track.