

THE ART OF SPEAKING:

DO SPEECHES HAVE THE POWER TO CHANGE THE WORLD?



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1. Greta Thunberg: United Nation Assembly speech



Tasks:

(1.) Watch the speech of climate activist Greta Thunberg at the UN General Assembly. You can find it [here](#).

(2.) Pay attention to her gestures, facial expressions and changes in her voice. Do they fit to the content of her speech?

(3.) What is the central claim of the speech? What is the purpose of the speech?

(4.) Does the speech communicate its intended message? How does the audience react? Do you feel convinced by it?

2. Barack Obama: Speech to graduating students



Tasks:

(5.) Now, watch the speech of former US president Barack Obama on the COVID-19 virus. The speech is directed towards graduating students. You can find it [here](#).

(6.) What is the central message of his speech? What does he want to achieve with the speech?

(7.) Do you think the title of the video (“Obama criticises Trump in speech to graduating students”) adequately reflects the content of the speech?

(8.) Compare his use of facial expressions and gestures with Greta Thunberg’s.

(9.) Is the speech suitable for the target audience? Did the speech convince you?

(10.) Write a comparison of the two speakers and speeches. Shed light on differences and similarities.