**TUSC:**

**T.U.S.C Parent and Student Information**

Speaking and listening are the parts of language arts that are used the most in real life.

Every person is required to communicate in public in some way at some point in life.  A good public speaker is not born.  The only way to learn how to speak confidently is to learn the techniques, to observe other speakers, and to practise public speaking.

T.U.S.C. (Totally Unbelievable Speaking Club) is a wonderful opportunity to observe, plan and practise.  The objectives are not just to improve confidence and abilities, but to encourage students to delight in speaking publicly.

We have gone over the roles and their descriptions in class. A description of all roles is on the class website and on OneNote.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(student’s name)’s duty for the first meeting is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

It is very important to be prepared for each meeting.

Past experiences with this program have shown incredibly positive results and progress.  Please talk to your child as the program progresses over the next few months. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

**Purposes of TUSC:**

* To provide regular, structured yet  an open and flexible vehicle by which to address the Language Arts communication outcomes in the curriculum with support to Math, Social Studies and  Science
* To provide positive, low risk environment where experiences which contribute to the growth of self-esteem and confidence of each child are the norm.
* To create a non-threatening forum for  teacher, peer,  and self-evaluation

**T.U.S.C. Roles**

**Date:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Role** | **Person** |
| 1. Chairperson |  |
| 1. Secretary |  |
| 1. Creative Chef |  |
| 1. Anthropologist |  |
| 1. Archeologist/Collector |  |
| 1. Artist Demo (Visual, Dance, Music, Drama) |  |
| 1. Ask an Expert/Interview |  |
| 1. Astrological Expert |  |
| 1. Citizenship Award |  |
| 1. Commercial |  |
| 1. Country Spy |  |
| 1. “Crocodile Hunter” |  |
| 1. Debater (2 people) |  |
| 1. Demonstrator |  |
| 1. Environmentalist |  |
| 1. Historian |  |
| 1. Impromptu Speaker |  |
| 1. Investigative Reporter |  |
| 1. Joker/Riddler/Stand-up Comedian |  |
| 1. Movie/TV Show Critic |  |
| 1. Music Lover |  |
| 1. Book Critic |  |
| 1. Photographer |  |
| 1. Poet |  |
| 1. Pollster |  |
| 1. Scientist |  |
| 1. Speaker’s Corner |  |
| 1. Story Teller |  |
| 1. Talent Show-off |  |
| 1. Technology Reporter |  |
| 1. Timer/break |  |
| 1. Trivia Quizzler |  |
| 1. Workout Instructor |  |
| 1. Website Evaluator |  |

**T.U.S.C. Role Descriptions and Outlines**

1. Chairperson:

* Runs the show by introducing each presenter
* Be familiar with the agenda before the meeting
* Call the T.U.S.C. meeting to order
* Keep the meeting running smoothly
* Be respectful! Manage the audience and the voice level of the audience
* Stand at the front of the class to introduce each speaker by name and the role of the speaker
* After each presentation, return to the front of the classroom, thank each speaker and provide one comment/feedback about their presentation; then introduce the next meeting or …
* Adjourn the meeting and adjust the rotation for the next meeting Announce when the next T.U.S.C meeting will be

1. Secretary

* Keeps track of which presenter is presenting and their topic
* Asks questions: 1 question per presenter
* Summarizes the meeting at the end

1. Creative Chef

* Creates a snack or dish for the class to taste
* Emails the recipe to the class
* Describes the steps taken to make the food
* If anything went wrong, and tell us what you would do differently next time
* Have a small taste ready for the class….or at least the teacher, Chairperson, and Secretary!

1. Anthropologist

* Investigate a culture, traditions and anything interesting they found out about that culture

1. Archeologist/Collector

* Find an object of historical significance to your family e.g. a medal from your grandfather or important photo; OR
* Show your collection off; show and tell something you collect

1. Artist Demo (Visual, Dance, Music, Drama)

* We all have our artistic strengths, so this is something you get to choose to demonstrate or present to the class
* If you love drawing/painter/sculpting create something to show the class, describing why you chose it and how you created it
* If you love music, you can sing, play an instrument, etc.
* If Drama is your thing, present a monologue from a play or recreate your favourite scene from a book/movie/show
* If Dance is your artistic strength, then demonstrate or show a video of you dancing
* Don’t confuse this with your “Talent Show-off”, as you’ll need to do something different, so choose wisely

1. Ask an Expert/Interview

* Talk to someone who know all about something you don’t.
* Interview that person using strong questions
* Present your findings to the class

1. Astronomy Expert OR Astrological Expert

* Here you have a choice
* Describe something in the sky: where it’s located, how to find it,
* What is the astrological sign of the week? Who’s going to have a good month and who isn’t?

1. Book Critic

* Tell us about a book you have read
* Summarize it for us
* Did you like it? Why or why not?
* What worked? What didn’t work?
* What rating do you give it? Recommendation?

1. Citizenship Award

* Choose someone in the class who has demonstration good character
* Create an award for them
* Present it to them in front of the class and tell us why you chose that person, what impressed you about their character

1. Commercial

* Create a commercial break for the class
* You will do your best to pitch a product you think the class would like to buy
* Your product and commercial should be appealing to the audience
* You will make sure you have all the appropriate props, people and/or materials you need to make it work
* You can perform this commercial or have it ready to play on a video

1. Country Spy

* Find out about another country in the world, perhaps one to which you would love to travel.
* Where is it located
* Find out at least 5 interesting facts

1. “Crocodile Hunter”

* You are on the hunt for an animal in the world. Tell us all about this animal, where it lives, what it eats, interesting facts, etc.

1. Debaters (2 people)

* 2 people will debate a topic in front of the class
* The topic will either be given to you by the teacher, or you gain approval from the teacher regarding a topic

1. Demonstrator

* Demonstrate how to do something, it can be anything from how to throw a football properly, how to defend yourself using martial arts, how to do a pirouette, etc.
* Ensure you include all the steps to help the class be able to try it.

1. Environmentalist/Social Activist

* Investigate an environmental or social issue in the world today
* What did you learn?
* What is your opinion on the matter.
* What can we do to help?

1. Historian

* What happened in History this day or week?
* The event must be described in detail
* It could be anything from how a cultural event started or a major event in history. For example, if we present near Remembrance Day, you can describe why we commemorate it, and what happened to bring us to this date, why it’s important…

1. Impromptu Speaker

* Speaking “on the fly” happens a lot in life
* The class will brainstorm 10 funny/interesting topics about which the Impromptu Speaker will possibly speak
* The day of T.U.S.C. the teacher will randomly select one of the topics and you will need to speak about it for the allotted time
* Can you prepare for this? Possibly. We will be looking at topics and they will be posted in the classroom and on-line. Think about each subject and perhaps jot down some notes about them to have ready when you speak.

1. Investigative Reporter

* What’s happening in the news?
* Tell the class some of the top headlines of the past week and describe 2 of those headlines in more detail
* Or, you can do your own investigative news report on a topic happening in our town or at our school

1. Joker/Riddler/Stand-up Comedian

* You must make us laugh!
* Tell us jokes or riddles, or
* Set-up your presentation like a stand-up comedian, talking about a topic and making funny comments about the topic

1. Movie/TV Show Critic

* Tell us about a movie saw or TV show you love watching
* Summarize it for us
* Did you like it? Why or why not?
* What worked? What didn’t work?
* What rating do you give it? Recommendation?

1. Music Lover

* We all love some sort of music
* Choose 2 pieces of music that have made an impact on your life or your family’s life
* Why do you love them so much?
* How do you feel when you listen to them?
* What do they remind you of?

1. Photographer

* Become a National Geographic photographer for the week
* Take a series of photographs (at least 5) of various items (if it is of a person, you must have their permission to use it in your presentation in the form of a note to the teacher)
* Describe why you took them
* Create captions and titles for the photos

1. Poet

* Read a favourite poem
* Describe why you chose it and what it says to you
* Or, you can write your own poem which takes up the entire given time (not just a limerick)
* Spoken word poem: chose a topic on which you have a lot to say, and talk in a specific form (almost like a rap)

1. Pollster

* Poll the students on something interesting (run it by the teacher first)
* Predict your results BEFORE you poll a sample of the student population
* How big is your sample?
* Show the results of your poll in a graph to present to the class
* Describe your findings: what surprised you?
* Summarize you learned from doing this poll

1. Scientist

* You are Bill Nye for the day….or David Suzuki…☺
* You are allowed to perform an experiment either in front of the class, or film it to present the video
* Why did you perform this experiment? What was the significance of it? What did it teacher you/us?
* If you are going to do the experiment in front of the class, you must try it at home first AND bring in your own materials
* OR, you can present a scientific discovery e.g. why are teenagers more tired than adults?
* Ask a question you’ve always wanted to know and why. Present it to the class either via video or using visuals or showing us

1. Speaker’s Corner

* Your opinion matters!
* Choose an issue about which you want to give your opinion (run it by the teacher!)
* You need to back up your opinion with facts and examples of why your opinion is important
* THEN, Seek out the opinion of 2 other people (not just 2 friends, but 2 different people in areas of your life); you can email these people
* Did their opinion change your opinion? Why or why not?

1. Story Teller

* Tell us a story, it can be a real story that happened to you or someone you know e.g. an interesting story from a grandparent,
* Or, you can create a fictional story

1. Talent Show-off

* What are you good at?
* Show us something you love to do and feel you are good at. It could be anything from drawing, martial arts, musical performance, dance, throwing and catching a ball, shooting a ball/puck/etc.

1. Technology Reporter

* What’s “app” out there? Is there a new, cool app? What is its use? Describe it and tell us why we should either download it or buy it.
* Or, is there something new we could possibly use? A new machine?
* Or, has someone created a new technology that will change the way we will do things? Report on it.

1. Timer/Break

* This week you do not have to prepare anything!
* BUT, you will be timing all the presentations, ensuring everyone uses up their 2 minutes (recording the time), and giving all presenters a 30 second warning their time is up

1. Trivia Quizzler

* You are our own class Alex Trebec from “Jeopardy!”
* Create a trivia game for the class, you can do it on one topic or several
* You can create it like Trivial Pursuit, or do it on SMART Notebook, using the Jeopardy game page.

1. Workout Instructor

* Get us up and moving
* Create a 2 minute workout we can do together and/or at home
* It can be strength training, yoga, Pilates, etc.

1. Website Evaluator

* Have you found a cool website to inform you about a topic, or cool site that has games on it?
* Tell us all about it and take us to it on the board, showing us the many features of the site and why you think it would be useful to us

**Tips for SUCCESSFUL T.U.S.Cs.**

* **Start EARLY.** You know your T.U.S.C date/presentation ahead of time. Think of a few topics you can do and see how manageable it would be for you to do one of them. Never start the day before your T.U.S.C is due!
* **Don’t spend too much time on this.** I always expect less than 2 hours of work per week (divide into minutes throughout the week).
* **Always practice your T.U.S.C at home and, if possible, at school** (in case of technical difficulties). You never know with all the firewalls and safety regulations if your T.U.S.C will function at school. E.g. a video on youtube or website.
* **Don’t forget your T.U.S.C at home!** This is homework which has due dates and points will be taken off if you are not responsible enough to bring your stuff. You will also have to make a formal apology to the class.
* **If you are having difficulties with your T.U.S.C, ask for help.** This could be from your classmates or from me.
* **Always have something to show or touch or listen to or taste etc.** All students learn through various methods, work with that.
* **PLAN your presentation in a booklet or on-line!** Have your FINAL copy of your presentation somewhere. You do not want to stand at the front with a huge booklet.
* **Videos:** If you are wanting to present a video you have taken or on the internet, all videos must be given or sent to the teacher at least the day before (not the night before), in order to ensure they are ready to go AND they actually work at school.

**Remember: we are listening and being courteous to every presenter!**