



TexasSpeaks

Monthly Newsletter
November 2021



White Paper



CONVENTION 2022
ROCKWALL, TX
OCTOBER 5-8, 2022

NEXT YEAR'S THEME:
KEEP IT SIMPLE!

[Click here](#) to read TSCA's White Paper on: "Enhancing Student Choice by Allowing Oral Interpretation to Fulfill ELA Elective Credit and Fine Arts Credit"

The goal of this white paper is to provide support for Oral Interpretation as a course on campuses across Texas.

HELPFUL LINKS

[2021 Resolutions](#)

[October 2021 Newsletter](#)

END OF SEMESTER ACTIVITY IDEAS

Modern Holiday Fable

Students will be given the task to write a modern holiday fable. To do so, they may either:

1. Adapt a classic tale
2. Write their own original story

The story must have: a clear plot structure (exposition, inciting incident, rising action, climax, falling action, and denouement), well-developed characters, and a moral or lesson for the reader to learn.

Talking Sides

It's a debate as old as time...what is the ultimate holiday side dish? Mashed Potatoes? Green Bean Casserole? Elotes? Cucumber Salad?

There are so many sides that not only are unique to holidays - but special to our families and our cultures. Have students give an informative speech on their favorite family side dish for the holidays - whichever holiday they choose. They should explain the history of the side dish, the key ingredients, as well as the importance of the dish to them and their family.

Community Kindness

Challenge your students to participate in a "pay it forward" project. You can make it a team project - adopting a family or volunteering at a shelter together. Or you can give your students a list of possibilities and then let them create a reflection or a presentation on what they decided to do to spread kindness ([kindness.org](#) has excellent resources and suggestions). A major component of effective communication is to teach empathy. And what better time than now?

BREAK LIST

With Thanksgiving over, we're all looking ahead to the winter holiday. Time to rest and rejuvenate! Something we are all in need of.

Burnout is at an all-time high in education. There is no easy solution or "fix all" bandaid but it means that our breaks are more crucial than ever. Below are some reminders on how to make the most of your break!

- Set your out of office email before - and don't check your email while on break!
- Eat your frogs - instead of waiting until the last day or two break to clean your house, run errands, and prep for the return to the classroom...do it now! It's never fun to have a to do list hanging over your head when you're trying to relax on break.
- Go outside. It's getting cold and the weather may not be perfect but finding time for even a brief walk will help you reconnect to fresh air and the sun - both things we don't get enough of during the semester.
- Be selfish with your time - this is your break! Spend the time how you want to. Binge Netflix and stay at home. Travel. See friends and family. But make it something you want to do - not what you have to do.

JOURNAL CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

[Click here](#) to read the call for submissions for our 2022 Academic Journal. We are seeking papers that focus on research in human communication.



Submissions must be received by:
March 31, 2022.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

LILLIAN ADEYEMI



Lillian is the first Black female president of the Texas Forensics Association. She led the organization through an ongoing pandemic, hosting the first ever (and hopefully last) virtual state speech and debate tournament. This position isn't easy even in a normal year - to navigate this role during a pandemic takes true patience, leadership, and dedication.

"To be a leader is to serve. The best way to support a community is a willingness to do the work - even when it's difficult."

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Were you named Teacher of the Year? Did your team partake in an awesome community service project? Do you have an amazing resource or lesson plan you would like to share with your fellow educators? Would you like to nominate someone for the member spotlight? Email socialmediaTSCA@gmail.com so we can include it in a future Newsletter!