

Drama, Writing and Speech

Assignment 17

- This year, we are going to do a variety of speeches for speech night, perhaps from an essay that you have already written. However, the bulk will be a persuasive speech using at least five of the rhetorical devices that we have gone over. This week I would like you to choose a topic of debate and give three reasons why you have taken the position that you do. Once you write your speech, it can be more “free” than your regular 5-paragraph essay.
- Read speeches by John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan (found in the textbook) and do any study guide material. We will discuss the content of the speeches in terms of their rhetoric.



- Listen to Ronald Reagan’s speech at the Brandenburg Gate, called the “**Berlin Speech.**” If you would prefer to read it, click [here](#). What makes Reagan such an effective speaker? Be able to talk about the rhetorical devices used in the speech, such as *antimetabole*. Watch Ronald Reagan the actor in *Bedtime for Bonzo* [here](#).
- The picture on this assignment page is of Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy. Remember that it was Presidential candidate Barry Goldwater who pushed him to the center stage of politics.

Long-Term Assignment

The L4 project will include memorizing a passage in *King Lear* and reciting your passage as part of a quiz every week until the end of the year—be prepared to recite your passage every week; writing a personal narrative that illustrates some aspect of the passage, due **the second week of February**; writing a critical essay on the passage, due **the fourth week of January**; completing a work based on the passage—poetry, painting, weaving, etc., due **April 8, 2022**.