

Special Occasion Tribute Speech

3--5 minutes

Choose a person, living or dead, famous or not, who has had a tremendous impact on your life. Who is a hero or heroine for you? Who do you admire? When you ask yourself these questions you should readily discover the person to whom you should pay tribute.

INTRODUCTION

Attention Getter:

Be sure to set the mood. These do not need to be deathly serious speeches. But, a certain fondness and sense of affection should permeate the mood to the opening of the speech.

I. Thesis

Perhaps something like: "If my mom hadn't have been such a strong influence in my life I would probably be a dismal failure by now,"

BODY

In the body of the speech, you may use the following, or a combination thereof:

I. Background of the person

- A. Their upbringing
- B. Accomplishment and Achievements
- C. Values and Morals
- D. Hardships and Struggles

II. Examples of how this person has influenced you.

- A. What the person has done to you or for you.
- B. What the person has done for others.

III. Have you grown as a result of this person's influence?

IV. In what way will you try to emulate this person in later years?

CONCLUSION

I. Summarize the person's influence.

II. Clincher: Should be something very special.

- A. A very appropriate quote
- B. A poem
- C. A letter you would write to the person
- D. An expression of gratitude