

Write a short speech about something important to you

In chapter 8 of *Dutch Diaries*, Lily and Anya join forces to make a speech about the people coming across the Mediterranean Sea. They believe that – if people are escaping from danger in their own countries – that they should be helped by people like us. They compare some of those people to Anne Frank and her family.

Throughout history, speeches have changed the world. They can help make the world a better place. A speech to 10 million people on television. A speech to your classmates on a Wednesday afternoon. They both count.

We'd like you to work in pairs to write your own speech. Something you can deliver to your classmates, school assembly or even on YouTube to the world! Today, we'd like you to try to help change the world.

Here are some tips.

Choose a subject you are passionate about.

Find someone who feels the way you do – then work as a pair or trio. Talk about your big issue.

Think of someone who you admire. Have they made a speech? Emma Watson is one example of a well-known person who makes speeches about things that are important to her. Be inspired by someone you admire.

Now, sit down and make a simple plan. Mix three elements.

ONE. Think of a story you that have heard about real people, even yourself, which you can use to draw the sympathy of your audience to your big issue. Tell that story.

TWO. State what your big issue is clearly and honestly, then say why it is important. Think of up to five reasons why it is important to you and put them in an order for when you deliver your speech.

THREE: At the end, after telling the story and giving your reasons, ask your listeners to back you on doing something or spreading the word about your big issue.

There is much more advice online about how to make a speech. Hopefully the above will help you to make a start. The Scholastic website has this useful resource:

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/speech/index.htm>.