Outside of Class Recorded Speech Reflection Assignment [10 Bonus Classwork pts. Possible]

Your assignment is to help yourself become a better speaker through practice and reflection outside the SpCm 212 classroom. For purposes of this bonus assignment the speech you are reflecting on should be a prepared, rehearsed speech of at least 10 minutes in length (being part of a group presentation can qualify you, but your part of the presentation must have been at least 10 minutes). Record your speech and then follow the process below in order to listen to and reflect upon it.

Record your responses on another sheet of paper and turn it in to your lab instructor along with your recording by the end of November. Be sure to include your name, your instructor’s name and section # at the top of the page.

1. Begin by discussing the context of the speech. What was the occasion/situation for the speech? [Identify the date, time, place, type of situation and size and composition of the audience.]

2. What was the purpose of the speech? Listen to your speech all the way through concentrating on the content of your message. Did you accomplish your specific purpose? Why or why not? Were the main points clear? Did you hear support material and proper citations?

3. Turn down the volume and watch half of the speech again focusing only on your physical delivery. Did your body help to maintain audience attention and interest? What did you do with your hands? Your feet? Do your facial expressions seem consistent with what you were talking about? Where do you seem to be looking most of the time during the speech? If you used visual aids in your speech, what did you notice about your delivery when using them?

4. Once you’ve reached the half way point of the speech, turn up the volume and turn down the brightness (or just turn away from the TV) so that you can just listen to the speech. Does your voice help to carry the message to the audience? Does it sound informative/persuasive? Does the rate and the pitch vary in a way that both fits with the content and meets the audience’s need for variety? Are there any filled pauses, mispronounced words, or startling grammar problems?

5. Having watched your speech at least two times, what would you say were three of its major strengths?

6. What would you say were two of its major weaknesses?

7. What would you like to do differently the next time you speak?