

Renaissance Academy Presentation Rubric

	Ideas and Content	Visual Aids	Organization	Language	Delivery
6	Extremely focused content with strong compelling details	Visual aids have polished, professional appearance; perfectly edited and legible enhancing the flow of the presentation.	Highly effective organization that enhances the main idea	Carefully selected, original language; precise and vivid word choice	Superior delivery; exceptional use of nonverbal techniques
5	Clear focused content with strong details	Visual aids have polished appearance; edited and legible, incorporated into the flow of the presentation	Organization enhances main idea; order and structure help audience understanding	Organizational language with a variety of carefully selected words	Fluent delivery; strong nonverbal techniques
4	Clear content: generally consistent support	Visual aids have a neat appearance; most editing is done accurately and is legible. The flow is stilted due to the addition of the visual aid.	Organization is easy to follow, but is not always effective	Functional language; message is clearly conveyed	Generally fluent delivery; appropriate nonverbal techniques
3	Broad or simplistic content; support lacks development or accuracy	Visual aids seem slapdash or unplanned; editing is inaccurate or illegible. The visual aid is NOT incorporated into the flow of the presentation. Visual aid serves as speaker's notes.	Organization is attempted, but is inconsistent or skeletal	Language is ordinary, lacking precision, variety or clarity	Somewhat halting delivery, with frequent space fillers; inconsistent eye contact, lacking gestures
2	Unclear purpose or main idea; minimal development that is not suited to audience.	Visual aid appears sloppy: inaccurate, unedited, or illegible; information is distracting; not incorporated into the flow of the presentation; connection to presentation content is shallow or superficial. Visual aid serves as speaker notes.	Organization lacks clear structure and may be difficult to follow.	Language is awkward, repetitive or misused.	Halting delivery with distracting fillers; eye contact with few gestures.
1	Content lacks purpose or central theme; missing and/or inaccurate support.	Visual aid was entirely ignored, illegible or was not present; has only a passing connection to the topic of the presentation.	Organization is extremely difficult to follow, or is too short to demonstrate organizational skills.	Language is extremely limited or so misused that meaning is obscured.	Halting, distracting delivery; no eye contact, distracting or nonexistent gestures.
	Teacher:	Teacher:	Teacher:	Teacher:	Teacher:
	Student:	Student:	Student:	Student:	Student:

POSTERBOARD/TRI-BOARD-STYLE VISUAL AIDS

LAYOUT

- Organize images and words in a logical fashion. The audience should know where to look first and in what direction its gaze should move (top-to-bottom, left-to-right).
- Create a balanced layout -- think about T or H, or bulls-eye designs -- with an even distribution of words and images throughout.
- Do not leave too much "white space." Fill the space without crowding images.

COLOR

- Have a single background color (black and red are visually most dramatic).
- Limit the number and variety of colors to 3-4 complimentary colors.
- Consider using colors that compliment the topic (e.g., red, yellow, and green for a topic about driving; greens for a topic about the environment; primary colors for a topic about elementary education).

FONT/WORDS

- All writing must be FLAWLESSLY edited.
- Limit the number of fonts to 1-2 styles that are easy to read.
- All writing must be neat: computer-generated or stenciled.
- Writing must be legible from the audience's position; use 36-point font and above. Make key elements (e.g., titles) larger than sub-elements.
- Keep writing limited.

NEATNESS

- No glue, tape, etc. should be visible.
- All edges must be cut with a straight edge (no choppy scissors work!).
- All angles are symmetrical and 90° where appropriate.

OTHER

- When using images, stick to a single style of artwork: original art work, photos, clipart, etc.
- Place a colored border around captions, images, etc.
- Consider adding 3-D elements to your poster.

POWERPOINT-STYLE VISUAL AIDS

LAYOUT

- (See details for POSTERBOARD/TRI-BOARD-STYLE VISUAL AIDS.)
- Use a background design that compliments your topic (e.g., faux notebook pages for a presentation about homework; a high-tech design for a presentation about computers, etc.).

COLOR

- (See details for POSTERBOARD/TRI-BOARD-STYLE VISUAL AIDS.)
- Make sure that font colors are still easily read on top of image colors.

FONT/WORDS

- All writing must be FLAWLESSLY edited.
- Limit the number of fonts to 1-2 styles and colors that are easy to read.
- Make key elements (e.g., titles) larger than sub-elements.
- Keep writing limited.** Do **NOT** write out your entire speech on slides, and avoid simply listing main talking points on the PowerPoint. (**No audience wants to stare at slides and read what a speaker is saying word-for-word.**) Instead, provide slides of photos, graphs, quotes, images that add interest and understanding to what you're saying in your presentation.
- Read the above point two more times. I really mean it. Really. Seriously.

OTHER

- Avoid using special effects to make words, images, and slides appear and disappear. These are time-consuming and unprofessional.
- Avoid setting up your presentation to advance automatically. Too often a speaker's words and the slides get out of sync.
- Count on at least 1-2 minutes of talking per slide (*lots* of practice will allow you to better plan this), so avoid creating too many/too few slides for the time allotted.

FILM/VIDEO VISUAL AIDS

PLANNING

- People generally think making videos is barrel of laughs, but good videos require a lot of hard work. Anticipate *HOURS* of effort to make a mediocre video.
- The script should be prepared (some teachers may expect a written script before or with the video) before filming. In video, improv is the equivalent of "slapdash" work on a poster.
- Use a separate person to film; do not rely on a remote.

EDITING

- Good, seamless editing is the key to a great video. Anticipate *HOURS* of effort -- most of it in the editing room -- to make a mediocre video.

SOUND

- Do several tests before you begin official filming to ensure that the dialogue is clear.

TITLES and SPECIAL EFFECTS

- Be sure to include titles when/where appropriate.
- Make sure all writing is flawlessly edited.
- Use special effects purposefully. Just because you *can* end each scene with a spinning effect does not mean you *should*.