

Politics and Persuasive Speaking

Watch political speeches and debates. Look and listed for the techniques that the candidates use to be persuasive.

List ways the candidates use each of these kinds of techniques of presentation.

- Uses gestures
- Uses facial expression
- Uses tone of voice
- Uses kinds of words and phrases
- Uses silence—pauses briefly so people reflect on what he said
- Any other techniques the candidate uses.

Discussion Points

- What are some differences between the ways the candidates present their positions?
- How are they alike in their presentations?

Think It through

What would you include in a public speaking guide to candidates?

Get It Across

Write a short speech for one of the candidates. In your speech, include directions about how to speak, how to look, and how to use pauses effectively during the speech.

Newspaper Connection

Watch a television speech or debate. Take notes about what the candidate says and how he presents himself and his ideas. Then write a report on the speech or debate. In your report, include details about the way the candidate used techniques to present his ideas.