

Choosing a Topic for OO

1. Solution should not be “write to your Congressman.”
2. Solution should be a “call to action.” (something that your audience can begin doing)
3. Call to action should be “livable.”
4. Avoid cliché.
5. Love your topic. (not essential, but can be helpful) Depends upon you.

Disclaimer: the acceptable criteria for the AZ circuit and the National circuit differ.

When choosing a topic, state it as a call to action. Like these past successful speeches.

Rethink optimism.
Volunteer.
Live life off balance.
Study philosophy.
Have grit.
Know your neighbor.
Take risks.
Stop viewing the world through your American eyes.
Be skeptical.
Censorship is destructive. (don't censor me)

Other Ideas:

- Laugh at yourself.
- Simplify your life.
- Tuck in your shirt. (We could learn from the militaries high standards)
- Where your hat forward, not backward. (there is a right way to grow and a wrong way to grow up)
- Drop the labels. (lifelong liberal Muslim immigrant woman and previous Washington Post journalist that voted for Trump and then received hate mail)
- Don't love mankind; love the person sitting next to you.
- Respect your elders.
- Don't be afraid of this “scary world.” (we live in a fear culture because of sensationalism)
- Pursue imperfection.
- Hold on to your innocence. (High School Musical: kids are growing too fast, but they can't make a sandwich)