Ceremonial Speeches
Ceremonial

• Usually given at **special occasions**: may be a toast, introduction, acceptance, presentation

• May be in honor of a wedding, promotion, graduation, other special achievements, etc.

• Keep **focus** on the **person/people/occasion**; it is **not** about you!
Ceremonial, Cont’d

• Use **language** that evokes emotion, imagery

• Remarks should focus on the **positive**

• Be **sincere** (unless it is purposefully silly or poking fun, i.e. a **roast**)

• Usually **memorized**; know what you want to say, do not try to memorize word-for-word
Logistics

• **Speech length**: 30 sec. to 1 min. 30 sec.

• **No outline** required – nothing to hand in!

• Visual aid **optional**; will not be able to use the computer/projector

• Worth 25 points
Logistics, Cont’d

• Occasion should be apparent from your remarks (do not need to “set up” the scene first)

• We can be at any occasion you choose, and you can be anyone doing anything you want!
Introduction

• Speeches of **Introduction**:  
  • Be **brief**  
  • Remarks are **accurate**  
  • Remarks **adapted** for occasion  
  • Remarks adapted for the main speaker  
  • Remarks adapted for the audience  
  • Create sense of **anticipation** and **drama**!
Presentation

• Speeches of Presentation:
• Main purpose is to tell audience why recipient is receiving award/honor
• Usually brief; may be up to 4-5 minutes
• May want to explain award if audience is not familiar
• May also want to acknowledge others who were eligible for award
Acceptance

• Speeches of **Acceptance**:  
• Main purpose is to give thanks for an award or gift  
• Usually will thank those who gave the gift/award or who helped you gain it  
• Want: brevity, humility, graciousness
Commemorative

• Speeches to **Commemorate**:
• **Pay tribute** to a person, a group of people, an institution, or an idea
• Give the audience **some information** about the subject of your speech
• **Inspire** the audience; express feelings and stir sentiment
• **Creative** and **subtle** use of language
Commemorative, Cont’d

• Most **common types**:
  Toast (wedding, birthday, graduation, retirement, etc)
  Eulogy
  Farewell address
What NOT To Do...

• Do not drone on and on; be succinct

• Remarks must be appropriate and positive; life is not a Will Ferrell movie!

• Do not over-praise someone; if they are living they will be uncomfortable, if they have passed you will sound insincere
• **Tiger Woods ESPY**: Acceptance
  [Link](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tpIUzHoMfXU)

• **Ronal Reagan SOTU**: Commemorative
  [Link](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qoQlkFryriQ)

• **Bridget Jones’s Diary**: Introduction
  [Link](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tclalT5D4IwC)