

**St. Clement's School**  
**Course Outline**  
**Eighth Grade Speech and Theater**  
**Fall Semester**

- I. Areas of focus
  - A. Introduction to speech and theatre
    - 1. Theatre games and exercises for voice and stage movement
    - 2. Read-aloud audition pieces
  - B. Tournament events
    - 1. Original oratory
    - 2. Choice of other events
  - C. Dinner theatre production
- II. Learning objectives
  - A. Interact as a group through improvisation and acting
  - B. Develop creative talents in speech and drama
  - C. Explore personalities through role play
  - D. Strengthen vocal variation, eye contact, and good posture through speaking to an audience
  - E. Gain self-confidence through performing for a large audience
  - F. Compete in local and state tournaments
  - G. Participate in the development of a dinner theatre production
- III. Areas of grading
  - A. Class participation
  - B. Preparation and presentation of assignments,
  - C. Memorization of parts
  - D. Audience behavior
  - E. Preparation for rehearsals
  - F. Improvement through effort
- IV. Major projects
  - A. Original oratory
    - 1. Select a topic from a group of five topics
    - 2. Research and write an oratory (speech to persuade) to be presented in class
  - B. Tournament events
    - 1. Required to complete in at least one tournament
    - 2. Choose a piece for an event (Poetry, Prose, Humorous, Dramatic, Duet Acting, etc.) and present it to the class
  - C. Dinner theatre
    - 1. Participate in the dinner theatre production presented in December
    - 2. Students who wish to act try out for various roles.
    - 3. Students who prefer to help direct or be stage manager can perform these jobs
    - 4. Requires two-three extra rehearsals either before or after school as show date approaches
- V. Class policies
  - A. Materials
    - 1. Use the binder started in sixth grade speech

2. Continue adding new pieces through eighth grade

B. Costumes and props

1. May be asked to bring costumes and props for assignments and dinner theater
2. Expected to take care of own belongings and to respect property of others

C. Homework

1. Practice pieces
2. Memorize parts
3. Write speeches
4. Attend rehearsals set up between the student and teacher when competing in speech tournaments
5. Late work is penalized 10 points for each day it is late.