

Honors Application for Route 1 with Matt - Free Speech Forum: A
2-3 page (800-1000 word) refined essay on the following prompt:

Why is an in-depth knowledge of our right to freedom of speech important to our democracy, and how does your 'selection' show/prove this? Consider:

- In what ways does your selection for the FSF show that freedom of speech is a vital component of a democratic government?
- How did the process of selecting/researching your item help you better understand the role that freedom of speech plays in our society?
- How does your selection make its audience think differently about free speech issues, or the role of the government with respect to free speech?
- If your free speech item did not (or could not) exist, in what ways would our society be different?

Essay should have an effective thesis statement, well-defined paragraphs, and be carefully crafted with an eye towards persuasion and formal voice. See separate honors writing rubric at the end of the rubric below.

The Presentation	8 points	6 points	4 points	2 points
The Item: Does it appear that you've chosen your item carefully and thoughtfully? Is there anything missing (such as song lyrics, transcripts) that would obviously and dramatically increase audience access in both presentation and visual?				
The Delivery: How passionate do you appear about sharing your item with the audience? Do you project in a clear and concise tone that suggests practice, refinement, and commitment to quality?				
Link to content: How aggressively does both the item and delivery suggest a strong understanding and application of 1 st Amendment principles?				
Visual Aid				
Effectiveness of Display: To what extent does the design/content of your visual display successfully advance your free speech message?				
Refinement: Does the visual piece show quality, care, and refinement? (Typos, rough edges, general visual attractiveness, etc fall into this box)				
Written Work (Honors)				
Style and Voice: Is the written work <i>formally</i> written, showing application of active writing, strong and careful word choice, and varying types of sentence construction?				
Organization: Paragraphs contain effective topic sentences, evidence, analysis, and transitions. Writing contains introductory thesis-style statement, and concludes clearly and concisely.				
Effectiveness of Argument: Points are strong, and backed up by the effective use of evidence and analysis. Evidence is clearly referenced (cited).				