



Advanced English

Lesson 4

Inaugural Address



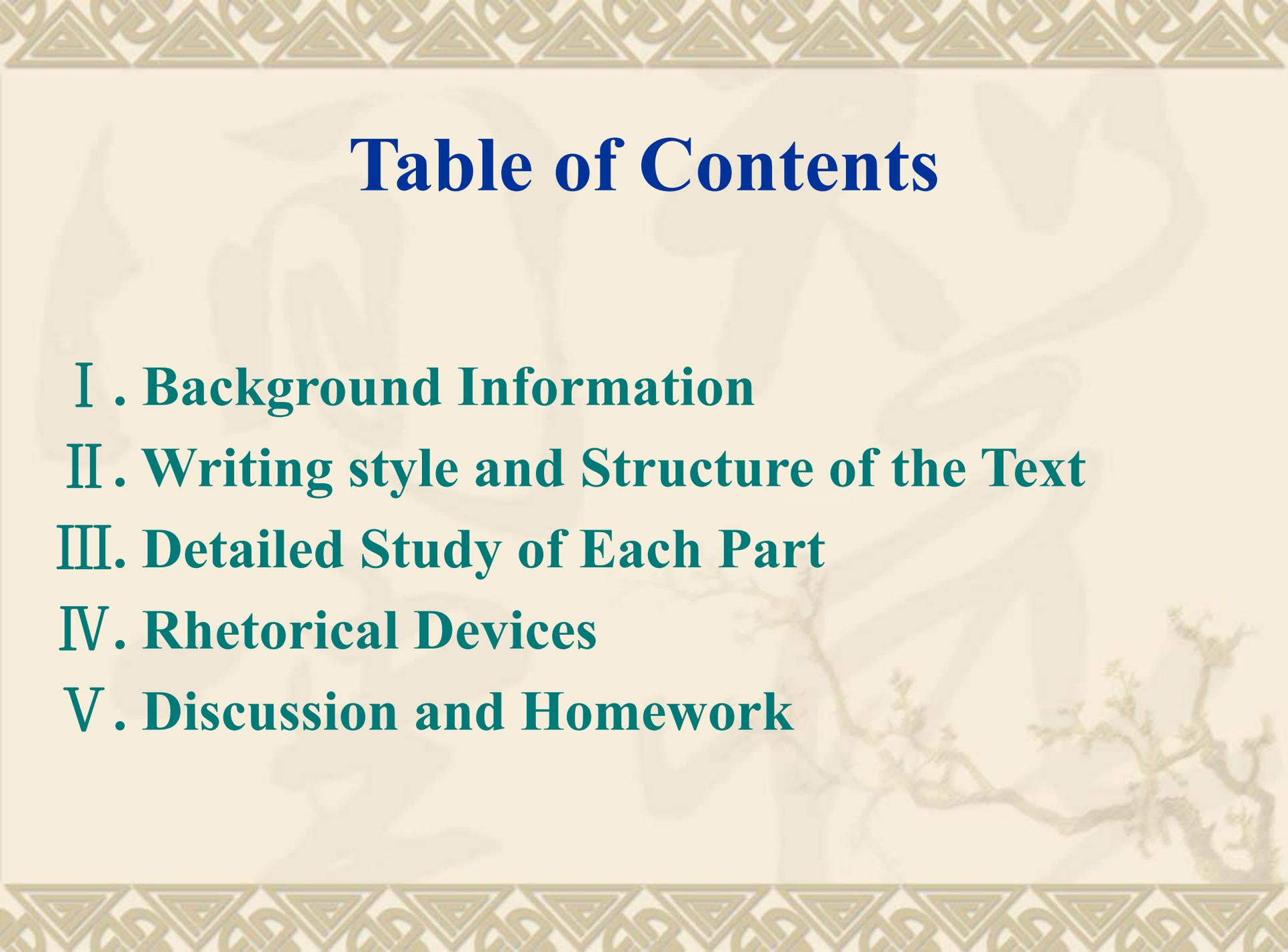
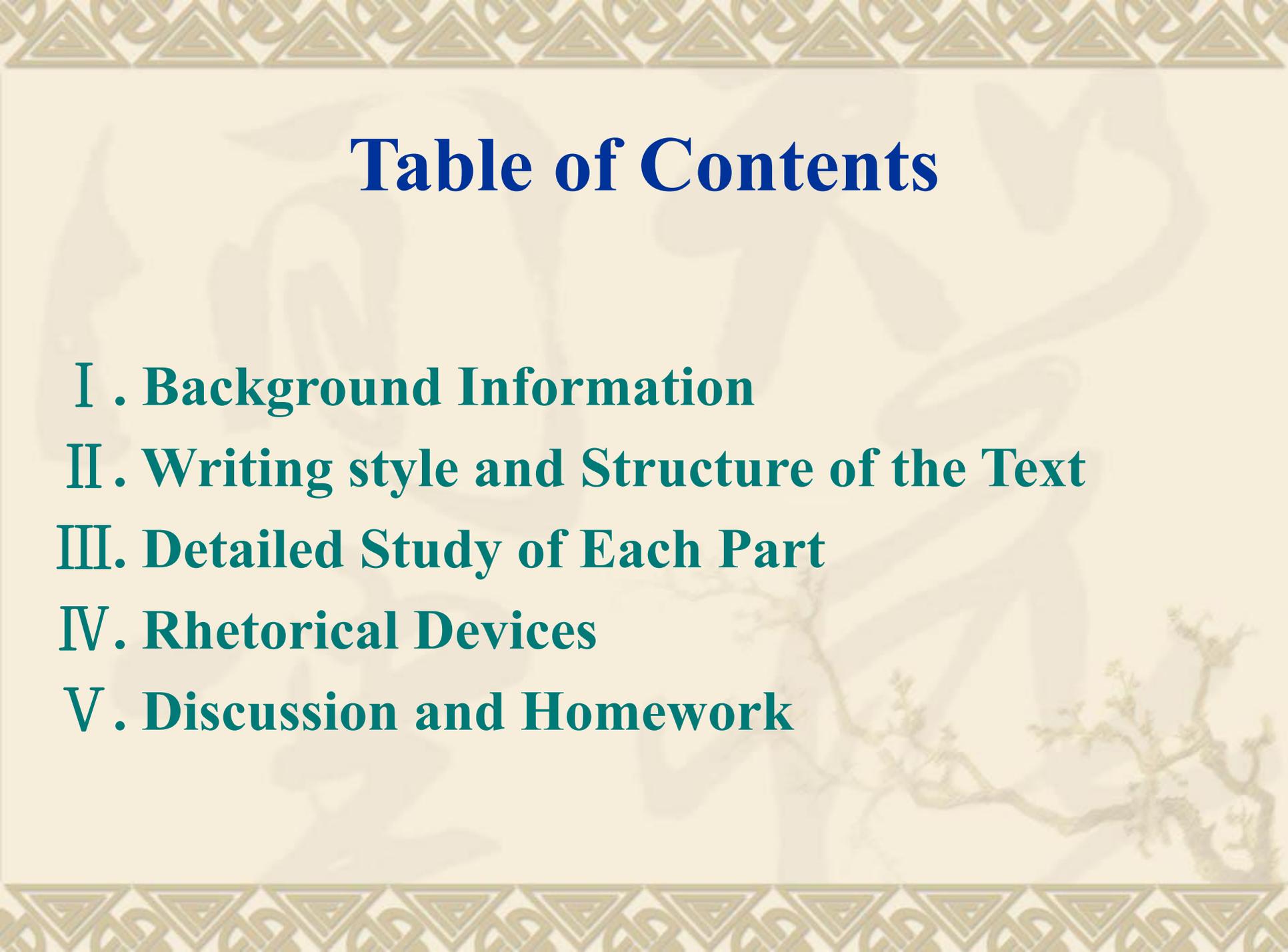
英语外事管理系
张继矿

Teaching Aims

1. To acquaint students with the historical background of the text.
2. To analyze the structure of this address
3. To appreciate the language features of Kennedy's address
4. To help students to learn the different styles of Churchill and Kennedy's speeches



Table of Contents

- I . Background Information**
 - II . Writing style and Structure of the Text**
 - III. Detailed Study of Each Part**
 - IV. Rhetorical Devices**
 - V . Discussion and Homework**
- 
- 

I . Background Information

Inaugurate vt. Introduce (a new public official or leader) to a special ceremony.

Inauguration Day 美国总统就职日

Inaugural Address 美国总统就职演说

Complementary information about Inauguration

- ❖ 1789: On **April 30**, George Washington stepped onto a balcony of Federal Hall in New York City, placed his hand on a Bible and swore to "preserve, protect and defend the constitution of the United States". He then read an earnest speech, calling for "united and effective government". Thus began a unique American institution --- Inauguration Day.
- ❖ 1793-1933: noon on **March 4**.
- ❖ 1937-now: On **January 20** (the 20th Amendment to the U.S Constitution)



Inaugural Address

- ❖ It is a speech, lecture officially made by a person on taking office.
- ❖ Memorable words have been uttered in inaugural address.
- ❖ Discussion: What are the most unforgettable and most quoted words in Kennedy's Inaugural Address? And why?

Introduction to the author John Fitzgerald Kennedy



1. 35th President of the U.S.(1961-1963)
2. the youngest man ever elected to the presidency
3. The first Catholic president

Family background:

- § **Grate grandfather :a poor immigrant from Ireland , cooper**
- § **Grandfathers: peddlers, coopers and common laborers;
----- clerks, tavern owners and retailers,
successful Boston politicians.**
- § **Father: Joseph Patrick Kennedy engaged in
banking
shipbuilding
investment banking
motion-picture distribution
a millionaire at 30 years old ,financier
ambassador to Great Britain.**
- § **Joseph, Kennedy ,Robert and Edwards**

Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs

Physiological needs

Safety needs (physical and emotional)

Social needs

Esteem needs

Self-realization needs (to become all that we're capable of being)

John Fitzgerald Kennedy's personal efforts

- ❖ He entered Harvard, received a BS from Harvard 1940.
- ❖ He served in the Navy and won the Navy and Marine Corps Medal.
- ❖ He wrote "Profiles in Courage", which won a Pulitzer prize.
 - ❧ 1947-1952 served as representative in the congress
 - ❧ 1952 elected to the senate
 - ❧ 1960 He won the Democratic nomination for president and defeated Richard M. Nixon, Republican
- ❖ [www.usconstitution.com/ JohnKennedy.htm](http://www.usconstitution.com/JohnKennedy.htm)

Family background + individual effort = success

John Fitzgerald Kennedy's death

His assassination at Dallas in November 1963 was a shock from which the U.S. has found it hard to recover and the murder is still a riddle.

Lee Harvey Oswald

Jack Ruby

Warren report

John Fitzgerald Kennedy's death

His assassination at Dallas in November 1963 was a shock from which the U.S. has found it hard to recover and the murder is still a riddle.

Lee Harvey Oswald

Jack Ruby

Warren report



II. Writing style and Structure of the Text

General understanding of the speech

1, object of a political speech : explain

convince

persuade

2, audience: the American people

the different groups of nations in the international community. (friends & foes)

3, content: domestic and international situation

promise to the alliance on different issues

(human rights, the liberty and independence)

veiled threat, warning and advice to the enemy camp.

Characteristics of the speech:

1. The order is clear.
 - ☞ Each para. has its own topic.
2. The tone is appropriate.
 - ☞ He uses different tone to different people.
3. The style is rigid.
 - ☞ It is made beforehand. So it is a sort of written language.
4. The language is rhetorical.
 - ☞ parallelism, metaphor, antithesis, allusions, repetition of words and phrases --- for force, vividness and emotional appeal.

Textual Structure/ macro-structure

Para 1-5: general statement of basic policy

**Para 6-10: addressing different groups of
allied nations or would-be nations**

**Para 11-20: addressing his enemy with
threat and warning**

**Para 21-27: appealing to his countrymen for
Support and sacrifice**

III. Detailed Study of Each Part

Part One (para 1–5)

A general statement of basic policy goals ;

Questions:

- 1) What does Kennedy mean by 'a victory of a party, but a celebration of freedom'?
- 2) What are 'an end and a beginning' and 'renewal and change' referred to respectively?
- 3) Why did he say that the world is very different now? What are the differences does he have in mind? Do you agree with him?
- 4) What belief is still at issue around the globe? Why did he say that?
- 5) What does he mean by saying "heirs of that first Revolution"?
- 6) Comment on the language. Find out all the rhetorical devices: parallel structure, repetition, antithesis, biblical style.
- 7) Comment on the effect of the first part of the speech. DO you think it is good? In what way?

Para1 opening paragraph (topic sentence?)

importance / significance of his election
as president of the US

Franklin Roosevelt -----
Truemen ----Eisenhower-----
Knnedey -----Johnson-----
-----Nixon-----



Add: general knowledge about American two major parties



“Victory of party”, which party did Kennedy belong to?
Do you know the history of America’s two major
Parties?

Celebration of freedom

☞ We celebrate freedom. People in the US are free to choose their president.

Do you know the stories of some American Presidents?

George Washington

John Adams

Thomas Jefferson

Abraham Lincoln

What has come to an **end** and what has just **begun**? What does **renewal** and **change** mean respectively?

- ❖ end -- the end of Eisenhower's presidential term
- ❖ beginning -- the beginning of Kennedy's presidential term
- ❖ renewal ---- the continuation of presidency and office of president
- ❖ change -- the change from Eisenhower to Kennedy

Solemn oath

- ☞ solemn-- refer almost exclusive to an extremely formal and inspiring religious ritual. (grave) very serious.



*"I do solemnly swear ... to...
preserve, protect, and defend the
Constitution of the United States."*

What is the Solemn oath?

Para.2

- ❖ the general situation of this world
 - ☞ topic sentence --- The world is very different.
 - ☞ In what way is the world different?
 - ☞ The world is different in the way of science and technology. People have modern and advanced science and technology.

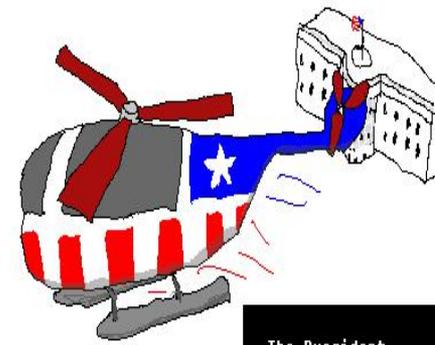
Add: general knowledge about Cold War

War

- ❖ It refers to the period 1953—1964. The United States and the nations of Western Europe began to fear Soviet Power. The Soviets were feared of Western Power. A situation of distrust and hostility between them is called Cold War.
- ❖ The most visible part of The Cold War was the arms race. Massive and expensive militarization movements on the part of both nations involved caused a new psychology to develop. Mutually assured destruction (appropriately know as **MAD**) was the philosophy that both nations had the power to destroy each other completely in the event of an attack. The theory was based on three ideas. One: both nations have enough weapons to destroy the other, two: both nations can detect a first strike before it arrives, and three: both nations are able to respond adequately before they hit by the first strike. The invention and perfection of the International Ballistic Missile (ICBM) was the beginning of MAD.



Arms race



The President, aboard Marine One, takes off from the White House

An arms race is a competition between two or more countries for military supremacy. Each party competes to produce superior numbers of weapons or superior military technology in a technological escalation.

Historical examples of arms races abound. One significant recent example was the race to develop more and better nuclear weapons during the Cold War.

The term "arms race" is used generically to describe any competition where there is no absolute goal, only the relative goal of staying ahead of the other competitors. Evolutionary arms races are common occurrences .

[Back](#)



revolutionary belief ---

❖ human rights

☞ All men were created equal and God had given them certain unalienable rights which no state or ruler could take away from them.

☞ see: Note 3

at issue ---

❖ undecided , in dispute

- ☞ The point at issue is whether you are willing to go abroad or not .
- ☞ That is not the point at issue.

❖ without issue –

to die without children

- ☞ He died without issue.

Para.3 general policy of the US

☞ People in the US must keep and defend human rights not only in the US but also in the world as well.

❖ Para.4 strong determination

☞ Kennedy puts the US to the leader, so he says in order to keep human rights, we shall....

Para 5. transition

☞ A one sentence paragraph that functions as a transition from the general to the specific. In the following paragraphs he will be addressing different specific groups of nations. This much we promise to do and we promise to do more.

Part Two (para 6–10) :
addressing different groups of
allied nations or would-be allies

Questions:

- ❖ 1) What are his policies for the old allies?
- ❖ 2) What do the ‘iron tyranny’ and ‘tiger’ refer to?
- ❖ 3) Who do ‘huts and villages’ refer to?
- ❖ 4) What is the policy for ‘sister republicans’? who are they?

Para. 6

❖ the specific policy toward his friends and would-be friends

antithesis --

United we can do everything.

Divided we can do nothing.

☞ --- the importance of unity

Para. 7

❖ Whom did he address?

- ☞ --- some newly independent countries
- ☞ He promises to aid (support) the newly independent countries so that they can remain free and independent.

ranks of the free --

- ❖ the community of free and independent nations
- ❖ a far more iron tyranny --- a communist dictatorship
- ❖ "riding the back of a tiger" --
- ❖ Compare "seeking the aid of socialist countries" to "riding he back of a tiger"

Para. 7

- ❖ 2) Those countries which foolishly seek the aid of socialist countries will end up by losing their independence as many other countries did in the past.
 - ❧ It is dangerous to ride the back of the tiger. If you do, you will be swallowed up by the tiger.
 - ❧ You will lose your power and independence .

Para 8

- ❖ Whom did he address?
 - ☞ the developing countries
- ❖ half the globe --
 - ☞ the continents of Africa and Asia constitute almost one half of the land surface of the globe.

Para. 9

- ❖ He is speaking to Latin American countries.
 - ☞ Usually the US regards the Latin American countries as the backyard of the US, for it has special interest in these countries.
- prey -- metaphor
- comparing "peaceful revolution" to an animal which might fall victim to enemy nations.
- We will not allow any enemy country to subvert this peaceful revolution which brings hope of progress to all our countries.

Para. 9

- ❖ 1. He offered special pledge that all Latin American countries to work together to make progress.
- ❖ 2. He warned the enemies not to interfere in the internal affairs of these countries, because we are master of this hemisphere.

Para.10

- ❖ He is addressing the United Nations.
- ❖ The UN is our last and best hope of survival in a world where the instruments of war have far surpassed and exceeded the instruments of peace.

Para.10

- ❖ instruments of war-- weapons, bombs, for waging wars
- ❖ instruments of peace -- machines, tools for producing goods

Para.10

- ❧ 1) to prevent the UN from becoming an assembly where people just criticize, insult and abuse each other
- ❧ 2) to strengthen the power of UN to protect the newly independent and weak nations
- ❧ 3) to enlarge the area in which its authority and mandate would continue to be in effect or in force

Add: In this paragraph Kennedy addresses all the countries lying to the south of the United States in Central and South America. Various names have been given to this Latin American policies, e.g. “dollar diplomacy”, “good neighbor” and now Kennedy’s “alliance for progress”. The last line reiterates, in other words, the main theme of the Monroe Doctrine.

- ❖ **Monroe Doctrine (门罗主义)** --On December 2, 1823, President James Monroe sent a message to Congress stating that the continents of North and South America shall never again “be considered as subject for future colonization by any European powers.” He also said that United States would consider any attempt by European nations to interfere in the affairs of any country of the Western Hemisphere as a direct threat to the peace of and safety of the United States....Monroe sent a message to Congress that the US would come to the aid of any country in the Western Hemisphere.
- ❖ The Monroe Doctrine, worked out by Secretary of State John Quincy Adams, was later regarded unfavorably by Latin American countries. They felt that it meant the United States could interfere in their affairs. In the 1920s and 1930s, Presidents Hoover and Roosevelt added the idea of the “Good Neighbor Policy.” To the Monroe Doctrine. This meant that the United States would not interfere in Latin American politics.

**Part Three (para 11–20) :
addressing the enemy (a veiled
threat, warning and advice to the
enemy camp)**

Questions

- 1. What is the policy to pursue towards those nations whom he considers to be “our adversary”?**
- 2. What are the two groups worried about?**

Para.11

❖ He is speaking to the enemies, especially the Soviet Union.

but a request -- but asking the other side to consider his proposal

1) point out danger

☞ danger-- self destruction (the Third World War)

☞ Advanced weapons will destroy the whole mankind

❖ whether intentionally or accidentally

Para.11

- ❖ anew -- again, in a new or different way
- ❖ quest -- a search or attempt to find
 - ☞ The quest for gold was long and difficult.
- ❖ engulf -- (of the earth, the sea) to destroy by swallowing up
 - ☞ The stormy sea engulfed the small boat.

Para.12

- ❖ 2) point out position of strength
 - ☞ We must be very strong. If we are weak, they would attract us. We dare not be weak because it might tempt the enemy to take rash actions.
- ❖ tempt -- attract
 - ☞ The warm sun tempted us to go swimming.
 - ☞ a tempting meal

Para.13

❖ 3) point out needs / situation (find no comfort in present situation)

cold war / hostile confrontation

- ❧ a) Both sides are feeling the great financial burden of the arms race.
- ❧ b) Both are made conscious of the gradual spread of the terrible atom bombs.

Para.14-18

- ❖ 4) point out co-operation / different proposals
- ❖ trying to find out specific field in which we can agree with each other.

subject to –

❖ depending on 取决于，尚待，在.....的条件下

☞ They have authority to decide, subject to the minister's approval.

☞ The treaty is subject to ratification. 认可，批准

☞ The plan is subject to confirmation.

belabor –

- ❖ set upon with too much talk or advice 责备
 - ☞ If you belabor a point in a discussion or explanation, you keep talking about it or emphasizing it in a boring way.
 - ☞ There is no need to belabor the point.

formulate -- work out

- ☞ If you formulate sth such as a plan or proposal, you invent it, thinking about the details carefully.
- ☞ 1. We had formulated our own strategy.
- ☞ 2. Both sides have the need to formulate a policy that will promote rather than hinder peace.

inspection of arms --

☞ examining/ watching over carefully the limitation of arms

❖ absolute --- without limit

❖ absolute -- complete

What are the specific proposals?

- ❖ 1. control arms
- ❖ 2. use /develop science for peace purpose instead of the war purpose.
 - ❧ explore the stars
 - ❧ conquer the desert
 - ❧ eradicate disease
 - ❧ tap the ocean depths
 - ❧ encourage the art and commerce
- ❖ 3. enjoy human rights

Para.19

- ❖ point out purpose, object
 - ☞ We must work together to make a new world order.
- ❖ strong are just -- The strong nations do not bully the weak.
- ❖ weak secure -- The weak nations feel safe.

Para.20 conclusion

- ❖ one hundred days -- historical allusion,
 - ☞ famous period in American history, in President F.D. Roosevelt's presidential term

Part four (para 20-27) :
appealing to his countrymen for
support and sacrifice.

Questions

- 1) What can you learn from the sentence ‘the graves of young Americans...surround the world’?
- 2) Find words that help boost the ego and pride of the Americans.
- 3) What is the final reward for the Americans?

one hundred days

- ❖ During the famous “hundred days” (Mar-Jun. 1933), Roosevelt’s administration rushed through congress a flood of anti-depression measures (more than 70 bills for approval), which were generally known as Roosevelt’s “New Deal”. “新政” Bills:
 - ❧ “Banking Act” 《银行法》
 - ❧ " National Industrial Recovery Act"
《国家工业复兴法》
 - ❧ "Agricultural Adjustment Act"
《农业调整法》
- ❖ The proposals can not be completed in a short time, but let's try and begin.

Para.21-27

☞ He appeals to his fellow Americans to support him and to do everything they can, even to sacrifice their lives for their country.

“rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation”

❖ ---忍受困苦，向往未来

☞ biblical language

☞ to be happy when things look bright and hopeful

☞ to be patient in distress/ in trouble

para 27 conclusion

ask of = inquire of (formal)

(of sb) demand

- ❖ us ---- the president and members of his cabinet
- ❖ you -- people of the US and the world

para 27 conclusion

We demand you to show high standards of strength and sacrifice and we also want you to demand us to show the same high standards of strength and sacrifice.

With God's blessing and help, let us start leading the country we love, knowing that on earth what we are doing is God's work (which is just)

Language features

- ❖ specific comment on the speech
 - ❧ Kennedy was an eloquent speaker. He is specially trained. This speech is very powerful and wonderful. He lays his emphasis on the successful appeals to the emotion of the listeners.
 - ❧ well organized
 - ❧ highly rhetorical

Language features

- ❖ 1. highly rhetorical ---parallelism, antithesis, metaphor, simile, metonymy, hyperbole,
- ❖ 2. invoking the name of God, the use of biblical style
- ❖ 3. the use of key abstract words:
 - ❧ faith, devotion, freedom, liberty, courage, loyalty, belief
 - ❧ These abstractions are impossible to define precisely.

Language features

- ❖ 4. the use of heroic-sounding verbs
 - ☞ explore, conquer, dare, --- which are inspiring and emotional.
- ❖ 5. more repetition in the structure of paras, which gives the address a certain rhythm.

IV. Rhetorical Devices

Paralleled structure

...born in this century, tempered by war, disciplined by a hard and bitter peace...

(P.3)

...pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend...

(P.4)

Repetition of phrases

(P.6,7,8,10,11)

To those old allies...

To those new states...

To those peoples...

To those nations...

(P.15-18)

Let both sides...

Antithesis

United, there is little...Divided, there is little...(P.6)

If a free society cannot.. Who are rich. (P.8)

Let both sides explore...divided us. (P.15)

Appropriate use of words

To our sister republics south of our border, we offer a special pledge...(P.9)

To those nations who would make themselves our adversary, we offer not a pledge but a request...(P.11)

Biblical language

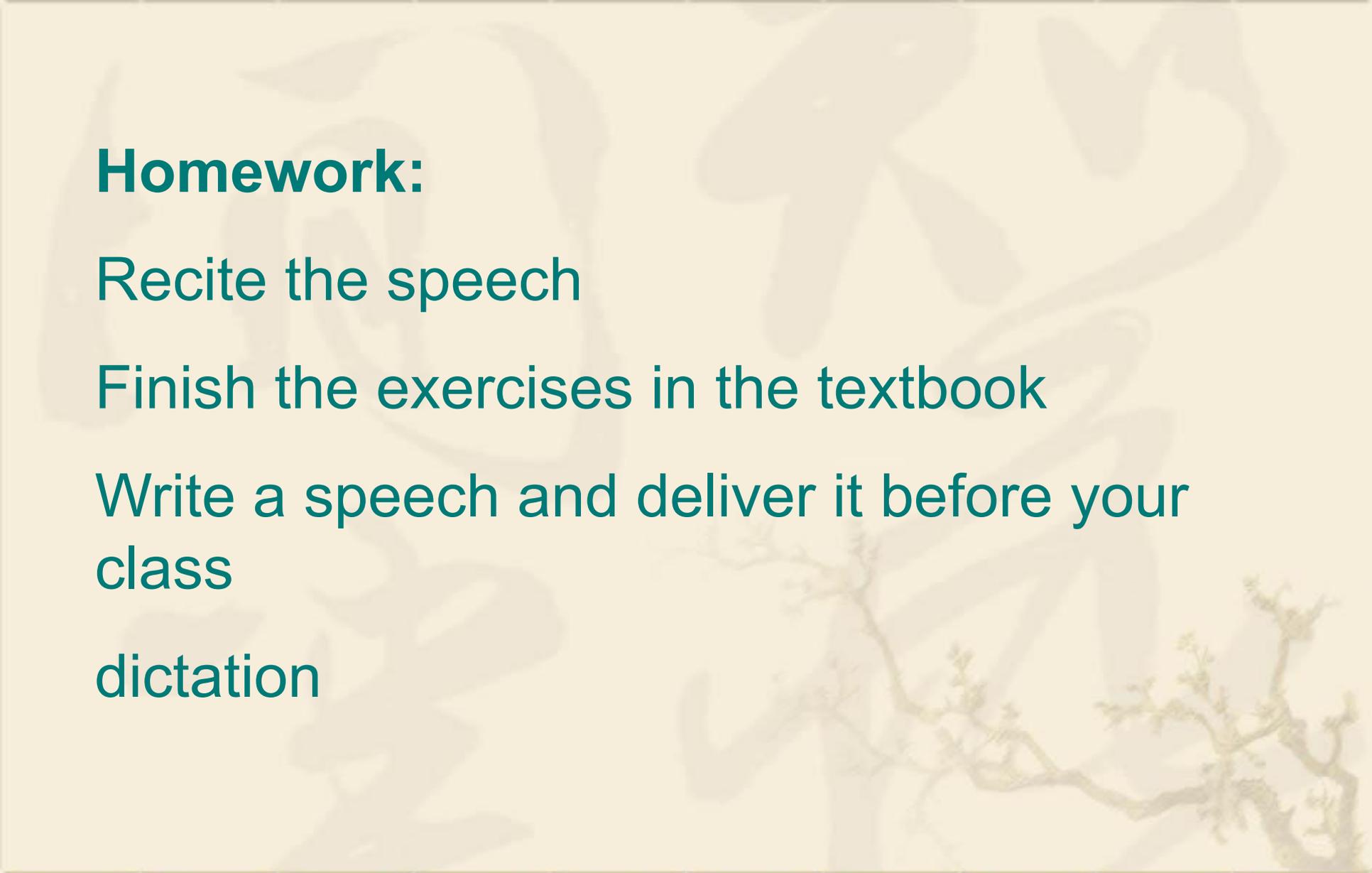
...our forbears fought is still at issue around the globe...the rights of man come not from the generosity of the state but from the hand of God.(P.2)

Let the word go forth from this time and place...(P. 3)

Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation (P.22)

V . Discussion and Homework

1. Cite examples to show that Kennedy is very particular and careful in his choice and use of words.
2. Is the address well organized? Comment on the order in which he addressed all the different groups of nations and people.
3. Is Kennedy's argument and persuasion based mainly on facts and logic or on an appeal to emotions? Would this type of speech be successful on all occasions?
4. Is the tone and message suited to the different groups he addresses? Give your reasons.



Homework:

Recite the speech

Finish the exercises in the textbook

Write a speech and deliver it before your class

dictation

