THE JOY AND TRADITIONS OF PERSIAN NEW YEAR

SPEECH PRESENTATION

BY \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CLASS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ PERIOD \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

SPECIFIC PURPOSE: At the end of my speech, the audience will have a greater understanding of an aspect of Persian tradition

CENTRAL IDEA: Nowruz is an age-old tradition celebrating the seasons, history, and nature

INTRODUCTION

1. William Alexander quote about spring and regeneration.
2. Discuss the miracle of the Vernal Equinox
3. Introduce the concept of the festival of Norouz
4. Touch on the history of the holiday to demonstrate knowledge of the subject

TRANSITION-Cite scholarly article explaining the holiday to establish credibility and pique interest.

BODY

1. Explain what we are about to learn about the holiday and cite the white paper published by Stanford University
   1. Explain the meaning of the word Norouz
   2. Discuss early origins of the celebration
   3. Discuss the importance of nature to the Zoroastrians
      1. mention deeper meaning of the religions beliefs and practices as a way of describing the celebration
2. Discuss the impact of age old traditions on modern celebration of the holiday
   1. Cite RFE article that describes one aspect of the holiday-the practice and meaning of coloring and breaking eggs
   2. Cite Harvard article detailing “Celebrating Nowruz”
      1. Describe significance of timing of the holiday
      2. Discuss the length of the holiday
      3. Discuss concept of cleaning out the old and getting new.
      4. Describe significant points of the festival celebration
      5. Review the importance of the table and what various elements symbolize

CONCLUSION

1. Rumi quote to bring concept to life
2. Invite the audience to reflect on what they have heard and let them think of how they may have been affected
3. Remind the audience that have just learned something new about a tradition from an ancient culture and traditions like these give us the gift of having the chance to learn more about ourselves, nature and life.

Thank the audience.