

Leo the Lion's Great Speech

Learning objective: To identify and use the features of a persuasive speech, including rhetorical questions, emotive language, and direct address.

Read the speech written by Leo the Lion, then answer the questions below to test your understanding of how to write a persuasive piece.

Friends of the Great Forest, look around you! Have you ever wondered why our beautiful woodland is becoming so cluttered with rubbish? It is time for us to take action. We must protect our home, we must clear the paths, and we must keep our river sparkling clean. Is it fair that the smallest creatures have to live amongst litter? Imagine a forest where the flowers bloom brighter and the air is fresh and sweet. You have the power to make a change today. Together, we can restore the beauty of our home. Will you join me in making our forest a paradise once more?

Word bank: rhetorical question · emotive language · direct address · persuasive · repetition · modal verbs

1. Identify one rhetorical question used by Leo in his speech. Why does he use this technique? (2 marks)

2. Find two examples of emotive language in the passage. How do these words make the reader feel? (2 marks)

3. Leo uses the phrase 'we must' several times. What is this technique called and what effect does it have on the audience? (2 marks)

4. Who is Leo directly addressing in this speech? Give evidence from the text to support your answer. (2 marks)

5. If you were writing a speech to persuade your classmates to recycle more, which one word from the word bank would be the most important to include? Explain why. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Leo the Lion standing on a tree stump, holding a piece of paper and speaking confidently to a group of forest animals.



Extension challenge: Choose a topic you feel passionate about, such as 'The Importance of Playtime' or 'Why We Should Protect Bees'. Write three opening sentences for a speech on your chosen topic using at least one rhetorical question and one piece of emotive language.