# Persuasive Oratory: The Great School Debate

*Learning objective: To identify and apply the features of persuasive speech writing, including rhetorical devices, emotive language, and formal tone.*

Leo the Lion is preparing a speech to persuade the school council to build a new nature garden. Use the word bank to fill in the blanks in Leo's draft. Then, read the statements below and circle 'True' or 'False', providing a reason for your choice based on Year 6 writing techniques.

*Word bank: rhetorical · emotive · alliteration · modal verbs · first-person plural · repetition*

**1. 1. Leo's speech draft: 'We must act now! Imagine a garden where buzzing bees and beautiful blossoms thrive. Surely, we owe it to our environment to create this space? We will work together to make this vision a reality.' Fill in the blanks: The phrase 'buzzing bees and beautiful blossoms' is an example of _____, while the use of 'we' throughout the text creates a sense of _____. (2 marks)**

**2. 2. True or False: Using a question like 'Don't you want a greener school?' is an example of a rhetorical question. Explain why this is effective in a persuasive speech. (2 marks)**

**3. 3. True or False: A formal speech should always include slang or abbreviations like 'gonna' or 'wanna' to sound more friendly to the audience. (2 marks)**

**4. 4. Identify which word from the bank describes the use of words like 'must', 'should', and 'will' to express the necessity of the project. (1 mark)**

**5. 5. Think of an emotive adjective to describe the current state of a neglected playground to help persuade the council to fix it. (1 mark)**

**Draw: Draw a poster for Leo the Lion's nature garden campaign. Include one 'hook' sentence at the top that uses a rhetorical question to grab the reader's attention.**

*Extension challenge: Write a short introductory paragraph (4-6 lines) for your own speech about a topic you are passionate about. Try to include one example of a rhetorical question and one example of a modal verb.*