Special Interests

What is a special interest?

Special Interest Spotlight

What is a special interest?

A special interest is something you love to learn and/or communicate about! It is also something that you know a lot of facts or information about.

True or False...

You can only have one special interest.

You can only have one special interest.

❌ It's False!

You can have as many as you want!!!

True or False...

Your special interests can change over time.

Your special interests can change over time.

✅ **It's True!**

You might develop new special interests or lose some of your old special interests as you get older – and that's okay!

Special Interests and Info-Dumping

What is info-dumping?

Special Interests and Info-Dumping

What is info-dumping?

Info-dumping means talking about your special interests in great detail, asking lots of questions, or sharing lots of facts!

True or False...

Info-dumping is a great way to communicate.

Info-dumping is a great way to communicate.

✅ It's True!

Info-dumping is a great way to connect with others about shared interests or experiences – and it makes people feel good to talk about the things they love!

Special Interest Spotlight

Let's celebrate info-dumping! Every week, one person will get to info-dump about their special interest!

If it's your week in the spotlight, it's your job to decide which special interest you want to share about! Then, you will write an e-mail that includes three facts about your special interest. You will also practice advocating for this communication style by explaining what info-dumping is and why it is an important way to communicate.

Special Interest Spotlight: Options

- Send your email to one person in the group or someone you'd like to communicate with (i.e. a teacher or family member).

- Send your email to the SLP and then present your facts to the group in 3-5 minutes.

- Create a slideshow about your special interest to guide your presentation.

- Offer the opportunity for others to ask you a question about your special interest.

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Let's talk about...writing emails!

When might we need to write an email to communicate?

Let's talk about...writing emails!

What are the parts of an email?

Let's talk about…writing emails!

What are the parts of an email?

1. Subject

2. Greeting

3. Body

4. Closing

Let's talk about...writing emails!

What's the difference between a formal email and an informal email?

Let's talk about...writing emails!

Formal

Informal

Let's talk about...writing emails!

Formal

- Needs all 4 parts
- Uses complete sentences
- Uses punctuation
- Uses capital letters
- Doesn't use slang or abbreviations

Let's talk about...writing emails!

Informal

- Doesn't need all 4 parts
- Doesn't need complete sentences
- Doesn't need punctuation or capital letters
- Can use abbreviations or slang

Let's talk about...writing emails!
Formal or Informal?

Mrs Smith <mrssmith@school.org> 11/21/2023 06:59am

Speech Schedule for Today

Good morning Mrs. Smith,

Is it alright if I borrow my students at 10:30 this morning for speech?

Have a great day!
Ms. Stone

Let's talk about...writing emails!

Formal or Informal?

Mrs Smith <mrssmith@school.org> 11/21/2023 06:59am

Speech Schedule for Today

Good morning Mrs. Smith,

Is it alright if I borrow my students at 10:30 this morning for speech?

Have a great day!
Ms. Stone

It's formal!

Let's talk about...writing emails!

Find the subject, greeting, body, and closing:
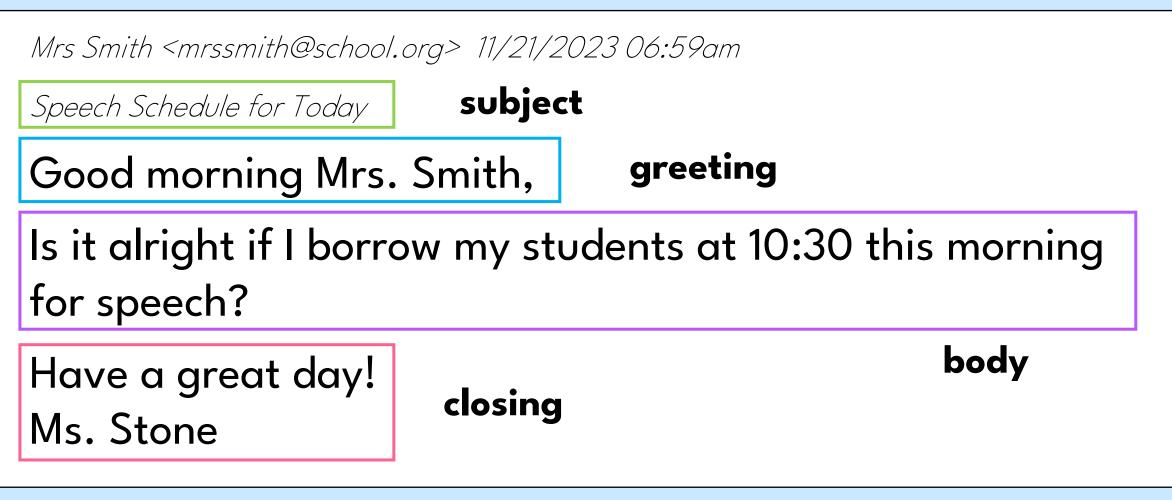
Mrs Smith <mrssmith@school.org> 11/21/2023 06:59am

Speech Schedule for Today

Good morning Mrs. Smith,

Is it alright if I borrow my students at 10:30 this morning for speech?

Have a great day!
Ms. Stone

Let's talk about...writing emails!

Find the subject, greeting, body, and closing:

Mrs Smith <mrssmith@school.org> 11/21/2023 06:59am

Speech Schedule for Today **subject**

Good morning Mrs. Smith, **greeting**

Is it alright if I borrow my students at 10:30 this morning for speech?

body

Have a great day!
Ms. Stone **closing**

Let's talk about...writing emails!

Formal or Informal?

Mrs Smith <mrssmith@school.org>   11/21/2023 06:59am

[no subject]

whatSUPPP smithyyyyy????

ima grab the kids for speech at 10:30, k?

see ya then !! :)
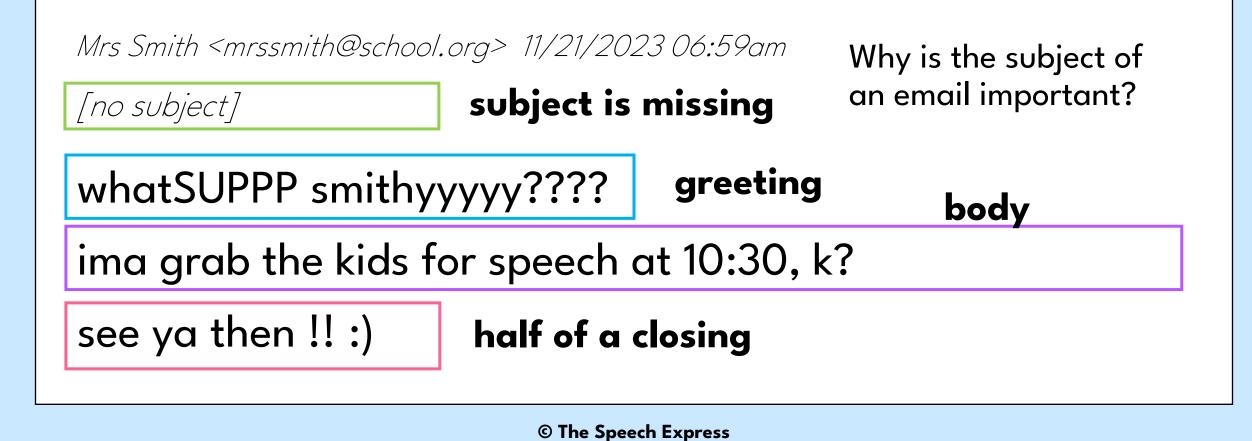
Let's talk about...writing emails!

Which of the 4 parts of an e-mail (subject, greeting, body, closing) are missing?

Mrs Smith <mrssmith@school.org> 11/21/2023 06:59am

[no subject]

whatSUPPP smithyyyyy????

ima grab the kids for speech at 10:30, k?

see ya then !! :)

Let's talk about...writing emails!

Which of the 4 parts of an e-mail (subject, greeting, body, closing) are missing?

Mrs Smith <mrssmith@school.org> 11/21/2023 06:59am

[no subject] — **subject is missing**

Why is the subject of an email important?

whatSUPPP smithyyyyy???? — **greeting**

body

ima grab the kids for speech at 10:30, k?

see ya then !! :) — **half of a closing**

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An E-mail Example for Info-Dumping...

Subject: *Facts about Florida*

Dear Mrs. Smith,

I like to communicate by info-dumping. Info-dumping means telling facts about your special interests, and it is an important way to communicate because it makes me feel happy to talk about the things I love and lets me connect with my friends.

I would like to share three facts with you about Florida. Lots of animals live in Florida, like manatees, lizards, sea turtles, pelicans, and alligators. You can go snorkeling in Florida and see coral reefs and lots of fish. There are over 820 miles of beaches and 1,200 miles of coastline. If you have any questions for me about Florida, I would love to answer them!

Have a great day,
Ms. Stone

An E-mail Template for Info-Dumping...

Subject: Facts about *[special interest]*

Dear [*name*],

I like to communicate by info-dumping. Info-dumping means...
It is an important way to communicate because...

I would like to share three facts with you about [*special interest*].
[*Fact one:*]
[*Fact two:*]
[*Fact three:*]

If you have any questions for me about [*special interest*], I would love to answer them!

[*Closing*],
[*Your name*]

Special Interest Spotlight

Ask me a question about my special interest!

Possible Question Starters:

1. What's your favorite...
2. Have you ever...
3. When did you...
4. Where is/are...
5. Who...
6. Why...
7. Tell me more about...
8. How did you learn...
9. What can...