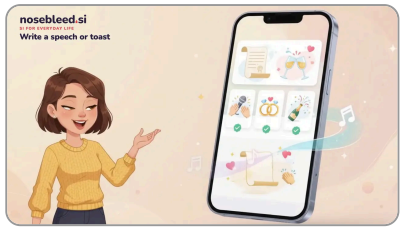
Write a speech or toast



Use AI to shape your stories into a warm speech of the right length, in your own voice.

By the end, you'll be able to:

- gather stories and plan a simple shape
- use AI to draft a speech of the right length
- check it's true, kind and sounds like you

Warm-up Have you ever given a speech?

Talk about it with your group. A wedding? A retirement? A birthday? How did it feel? What makes a speech good?

1 Gather the stories

Sue is giving a 3-minute speech at her brother Dave's 70th. Here are her made-up notes. Underline the best story.

SUE'S NOTES

Dave: 70. Worked on the buses for 40 years. Taught me to ride a bike (into a hedge!). Loves Elvis and his allotment. Married to Carol for 45 years. Always first to help a neighbour.

A simple shape for a speech:

1. **Hello**, and who you are
2. **A story** or two
3. **What they mean to you**
4. **The toast**: "Please raise your glasses to..."

Think of someone you might give a speech about. Which story would you tell?

2 Ask AI for a draft

If you have a device, try this prompt with Sue's notes.

TRY THIS PROMPT

Please help me write a warm, gently funny speech for my brother Dave's 70th birthday party. It must last about 3 minutes when read aloud. Use only these details, follow this order: hello, a story, what he means to me, a toast. Use simple words that sound like me talking.

3 Check the draft

An AI draft had these problems. Write what you'd do about each.

	What would you do?
It's 1,100 words long.	
It says Dave crashed a bus.	
It uses words like "indefatigable".	

4 Make it yours

Write the toast: the last line of the speech.

5 On the day

- Practise out loud, and time yourself.
- Print it in large text, with gaps between paragraphs.
- Look up, smile, and pause for laughs.
- Keep jokes kind: nothing to embarrass anyone.

> **No device?** In pairs, tell your partner a one-minute story about someone you know. Then swap. What made the story work?

Find out more: read the free step-by-step guide, with a 10-second video, at **nosebleed.si/ideas/write-a-speech-or-toast**

Teacher notes: Write a speech or toast

Time: 45 to 60 minutes

Level: beginners; no AI experience needed

Group: any size; works well in pairs

You'll need: a copy per learner; phones or tablets with an AI chat app (optional)

Before the session

Try the prompt with Sue's notes. Sue and Dave are made up. Most people speak about 130 words a minute, so a 3-minute speech is about 400 words.

Running order

5 min	**Warm-up.** Speeches we've given or heard.
10 min	**Part 1.** Stories and a simple shape.
20 min	**Parts 2 and 3.** Try the prompt, then fix the problems.
10 min	**Part 4.** Write the toast.
5 min	**Wrap-up.** Volunteers read their toasts.

Answers: Part 3

1,100 words: far too long, about 8 minutes. Ask AI to cut it to about 400 words.
Crashed a bus: made up, and could embarrass him. Take it out.
"Indefatigable": ask for simple words ("he never stops"), so it sounds like Sue.

Discussion points

- The bike-into-the-hedge story is personal, funny and kind: a good choice.
- AI can make a speech sound like a greetings card. Your own words and stories are what people remember.
- Reading it aloud is the best check of length and tone.

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