

Assignment Type: A Personal or Organizational Testimony

What is it

A personal testimony is a presentation given at a public hearing, with the purpose of telling the policy makers how a law or policy will impact their lives. A testimony from an organization is basically the same except given with the organization's point of view.

Why use it

A personal or organizational testimony is a demanding assignment and would be relevant to many courses. As in other assignments, students must research, evaluate material, and present it in a concise, readable way.

A testimony is an assignment that mirrors “real world” applications outside the classroom. Effectively presented personal testimonies can influence policy in our schools, our legislature, our city councils and other forms of government. Research shows that student's value assignments that they believe will be useful in their careers.

How to use it

A testimony is an excellent assignment that replaces an essay, a personal reflection, or even a speech. Students write their testimony as if they are going to present it to a government body or other policy makers. Then, you may have them present the testimony with a podcast or a webcam to mimic a face-to-face presentation.

Provide instructions on how to design a testimony and the types of information to include. Consider using peer review for the written script, as this will give your students valuable feedback on their projects. Also, by critiquing their peer's projects, students can often see the flaws in their own.

Level of Bloom's Taxonomy: Sample Learning Objectives

Testimony assignments can be constructed to assess accomplishment of learning outcomes at any level of the cognitive domain on Bloom's Taxonomy. Here are a few

examples of objectives from different levels of Bloom's that can be assessed with a testimony:

- Explain your reasoning behind choosing your mobile provider.
- Validate the approved changes to the budget.

Resources

Resources for Writing

- [How to Write Your Personal Testimony](#)
- [How to Write a Letter of Testimony](#)

Resources for Recording

- [Recording with Audacity - Handout](#)
- [How to Record Video with a Webcam - Handout](#)