



Reminder: Performance assessments should be adapted to your individual classroom and contextualized based on your students' cultural identities, interests, skills, and pre-learning.

Any Grade

Ask Your Mayor

Context & Prerequisite Skills

Students should have an idea of an important figure in their city/town who makes decisions.

Essential Questions

What authentic and open-ended questions are students exploring in this assessment?

How can I turn a circumstance into an impactful moment?

How can I interact with my local officials?

Which problems can my local officials solve?

How do I communicate effectively and concisely?

Learning Goals

When students complete the process to create the output, what skills and knowledge will they be demonstrating? Remember - application and transfer of high-leverage skills are a hallmark of performance assessments.**

- Research
- Communication
- Self-direction
- Civic engagement
- Principles of government
- Formulating an argument

**While students will be demonstrating these skills in completing the task, it is not necessary to formally assess all of them.

Performance Assessment Quality Criteria

- Align to high-leverage learning goals (competencies, learning targets, standards, transferable skills, etc)
- Be open-ended and relevant to the real world
- Require application and transfer using higher-order thinking
- Be fair and culturally responsive
- Outline clear criteria for success in a rubric
- Result in original products, performances, or solutions



Task Summary

What is the authentic and relevant scenario that you are asking students to engage in to complete this task?

You are riding the bus when your city/town mayor sits down across from you. They ask you if you have any thoughts you would like to share with them. You only have a minute and 30 seconds until the bus arrives at your stop. Choose an issue within your community that you are passionate about and create a one-and-a-half-minute speech explaining its importance to the mayor and lending them a potential solution.

*Modify the scenario to make it connected to your local community. This helps learners to see how they can interact with public officials. For example: “You are riding the T and happen to sit next to Mayor Walsh,” or “You are at the grocery store in line behind Representative Pressley.”

Quality Process

What is the flexible quality process learners will engage in to produce the output?

1. Choose a problem
2. Research the problem and its causes
3. Brainstorm solutions to the problem
4. Write your short speech. Get feedback from a peer.
5. Practice giving your speech. Get feedback.
6. Make adjustments.
7. Give final speech to the class.

Quality Product

What original product or solution will students produce as a result of this assessment?

- ◇ Speech addresses a problem or issue in your community and facts in the speech are accurate.
- ◇ Speech includes a call to action for the local official.
- ◇ Speech is rehearsed.

