Here is a suggested outline for the development of your speech:

**Introduction**

**Attention Getter:** To begin, choose whether to share a powerful part of the historic speech or to reference a significant social impact that resulted because of the speech. Either way, this should engage your listeners and make them want to listen for more.

**Background:** Briefly tell your audience what speech you will be presenting, who the speaker was, and the occasion of the speech.

**Claim:** Tell the audience how you will interpret the significance of the historical speech you have selected. *Ex.: “When Abraham Lincoln gave the Gettysburg Address, he personified the United States of America in an effort to connect deeply with an audience affected by death and to increase their support for the Union.”*

**Body**

The body of your speech should be a mix of information about the historical speech and your analysis of that speech (about 50/50). You should make sure to cover the following topics:

The background or context of the speech and speaker

Who gave the speech and what was their experience? What was the historical context of the speech? What was happening in the country/world when it was delivered? Who was the primary audience? What was the speaker’s purpose?

An explanation of what was said and how it was delivered

How did the speaker present a message? What claim was made? What reasons and evidence were given to support the claim? How did the speaker address any counterclaims? Did the speaker appeal to audience emotions? What word choices were used? Did the speaker incorporate any rhetorical devices? Did the speaker do anything to bolster authority or credibility?

Critical analysis of the speech

How effective was this speech and its delivery? What parts were effective or ineffective? How was the speech received by the audience? What importance or future implications did the speech have in society?

**Conclusion**

End your speech with a strong conclusion.

**Review**: Restate your main points.

**Emphasize:** Highlight your claim and how it was fulfilled by your analysis.

**Conclude:** Come “full circle” by referencing your attention-getter from the introduction.

**Extend:** Evaluate what we can take away from your analysis. Explain what the impact or applicability is for us today.