

## State of the Union Address – Worksheet

1. What is the purpose of the State of the Union Address?
2. When was the first annual presidential message?
3. When did this annual message become known as the State of the Union address?
4. When was the State of the Union first broadcast on television at night?
5. Before watching the State of the Union, use the **Topic Chart** to predict what topics the president will talk about. Watch the speech and see how many you got right.
6. Complete the **Assessing the Speech Chart** and rate the president's arguments.
7. Rhetoric: How would you describe President Trump's style? Circle all of the following words that apply.

Passionate  
Well-worded  
Sophisticated  
Repetitive  
Interesting  
Energetic  
Annoying  
Boring  
Patriotic  
Inspirational  
Other descriptions:

8. Did the President recognize any individual people during the speech? Who? Why?

9. How would you rate the speech? (poor, fair, good, very good, excellent). Why?

**Extension:**

10. What did the journalist/political commentators on the PBS NewsHour say about the State of the Union Address? Does their assessment match yours? Would you change your evaluation of the speech after listening to the professional commentators?



	<b>President Trump's State of the Union Speech: Assessing the Speech</b>	
List the topics and plans outlined by President Trump.	Between 1 and 5, how persuasive was the president's argument? (1=not at all, 5=very persuasive)	Do you agree with the argument? Why or why not?